

THE TIMES Tomorrow

Rose ...
The Times Profile: Umberto Eco, somewhat surprised best-selling author of *The Name of the Rose*
... and Crown
Tim Heald reviews Elizabeth R, by Elizabeth Longford
Tweedy desperado
Sir John Hoskyns, scourge of the political Establishment
Travelling ...
Business travel takes off again: a special report
... in Europe
How Britain's football clubs fared in Europe

22 held in cancer charity raid

The police were questioning 22 people after raids by the Fraud Squad in London and Peterborough in connection with the activities of the charity Children with Cancer. The inquiry began after *Sunday Times* allegations that a businessman was making 65p from each pound raised. The police have asked for people who have had dealings with the organization to contact them.

Argentine drive for UN support

Argentina launched a campaign at the UN for European support for the junta's Falklands policy with an appeal to Britain's allies to persuade her to discontinue the "Fortress Falklands" policy.

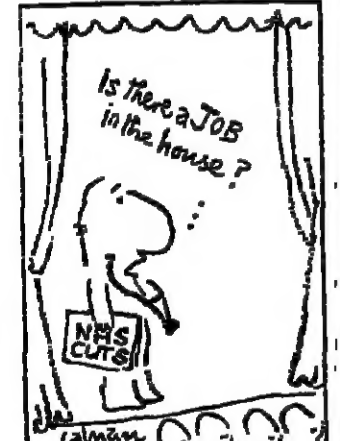
Bejerman stable

Sir John Bejerman remained on the danger list at Brompton Hospital, London, but his condition was said to be stable. He had a heart attack on Monday.

IRA arrests

Two more of the prisoners who escaped from the Maze prison were recaptured after the security forces surrounded a house near Newcastle, Co Down.

Search goes on, page 2



£1.6m yearling

A European record price of £1,627,500 was paid by a Robert Sangster syndicate for a Hello Gorgeous yearling colt at Newmarket. Earlier report, page 26

Football results

Barnsley 3, Grimsby 1; Town 1, Fulham 2; Middlesbrough 1, Oldham Athletic 0; Charlton Athletic 0, Bolton Wanderers 0; Burnley 0, Bournemouth 0; Bristol Rovers 1, Hull City 1; Wimbledon 0, Newport County 1; Preston North End 1, Plymouth Argyle 4; Southampton 1, United 0; Sheffield United 1, Bradford City 0; Aldershot 2, Swindon Town 1; Blackpool 2, Mansfield Town 0; Bristol City 3, Reading 1; Chesterfield 0, Hereford United 0; Darlington 1, Bury 2; Doncaster Rovers 2, York City 2; Halifax Town 2, Northampton Town 2; Rochdale 2, Hartlepool United 0.

Leader page, 13
Letters: On banking crisis, from Sir William Lighthow; pensions, from Mr N. Vinson and Mr P. Chapoy
Leading articles: Reagan and disarmament; the Maze breakout; America's Cup
Features: pages ...
Michael Ivens on ending the unions' political levies; how Poland's military leaders are turning into pen-pushers; France: health without tears; Spectrum: The Cynical Seventies; Wednesday Page: A Pythian sheds his skin; Special Report, pages 15, 16 and 17, on regional airports
Obituary, page 14
Professor R. H. Thomas, Tino Rossi

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Miners call special conference to fight pit closures

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Miners' leaders yesterday took the first step towards a strike this winter by making official a strike by militant Scottish miners and calling a special conference next month to fight pit closures. They also submitted a claim for "substantial" wage increases designed to bring the value of their pay back up to levels reached after their last big confrontation with the Government in 1974. No clear figures were put on the demand, but officials of the National Coal Board calculated that it could add at least 20 per cent to the industry's wage bill. After being given an unusually detailed submission, the board yesterday put off making an offer to the union until Friday, when the miners' representatives are likely to be offered rises in line with the Cabinet's 3 per cent ceiling on settlement in the public sector. But the impetus is now building up over jobs rather than pay. The executive committee of the National Union of Mineworkers voted unanimously to support the two-week-old strike by pitmen at Monktonhall colliery near Edinburgh and to call a special delegate conference on the future of the industry, in London on October 21. Mr Arthur Scargill, president of the NUM, said that the conference would "determine the union's position" on pit closures, and a number of options would be considered. He declined to say what they might be, but a national overtime ban is understood to be an item on the agenda. About 10 per cent of all shifts worked in the industry are done in overtime. "The fight to maintain living standards is paramount, but at the same time so is the fight to maintain jobs and pits because if we do not have jobs and pits there is little point in fighting for wage increases," he said. About 100 miners from Monktonhall pit lobbied yesterday's executive meeting, and they were told by Mr Michael McGahey, president of the NUM in Scotland, that the miners would take their battle "to the labour and trade union movement". He appealed: "Keep your unity. Stand firm behind your union". It is unprecedented for the NUM to make official a strike at one colliery, but the miners are feeling under a spate of shut-downs that has evidently made their leaders decide that the time has come to call a halt. There are 16,000 fewer pitmen in the industry than a year ago, and at least 16 collieries have closed or are scheduled to close by the end of the 1983-84 financial year. It was announced yesterday that Herrington Burn colliery near Sunderland, Tyne and Wear, is almost certain to close. The board's more immediate concern is to conclude a quiet settlement on the miners' claim for a new wage deal operative from November 1. Present earnings in the industry (including output bonuses) range from £148.27 a week on the surface to £178.93 at the colliery. The board yesterday, "just listening" to the miners' case, which recalled the old days of detailed and logically-argued submissions rather than the heady "give us the money" demands of the 1970s. After a half-hour adjournment Mr James Cowan, board member for industrial relations, asked for time to consider the mass of statistics and promised to make an offer on Friday morning. Vauxhall ballot, page 2

MINERS' PAY			
	Claim	Settlement	Weekly average wages
1979	% 20	% 20	£101.78
1980	35	19	£119.15
1981	24	9.5	£140.20
1982	31	7	£156.36
1983	substantial due Nov 1		£166.07
			National average manual wage
			£143.00 (est)

at April 1

Hitch over Lebanon peace talks

From Our Correspondent Beirut

The guns remained silent in Lebanon for the second consecutive day in spite of failure by the various armed factions to agree on a meeting site for the committee that will oversee the ceasefire. Lebanese state radio and television, quoting an army spokesman, said that the Government, as well as Christian, Druze and Muslim militias, had chosen representatives for the ceasefire supervisory committee. But sources close to Amal, the Shia Muslim militia, said that the committee had failed to meet yesterday, because its members could not agree where to meet.

The delay is likely to slow the dispatch of "impartial observers", possibly to include members of the United Nations truce supervision organization, into the mountain areas south and east of Beirut.

Such a delay could lead to further charges that the combatants are using the lull in the fighting to rearm and fortify their positions.

Early yesterday, the Lebanese Army charged that the Druze militia was using the ceasefire to improve their mountain positions.

Lebanon's Minister of Public Works, Mr Pierre Khoury, said that Beirut's international airport may be opened to flights tomorrow. The airport has been closed since August 28, when Shia militia and Lebanese army troops clashed in the capital's southern suburbs.

The meeting of the ceasefire supervisory committee of military representatives will be followed by the formation of a so-called national reconciliation committee that will discuss Lebanon's future. Despite efforts to draw leaders of the key political factions to the national summit meeting, it is feared that a lasting solution will not be found.

Syrian resolve, page 5

More Cunard work goes abroad

By Michael Baily, Transport Editor

Cunard infuriated Britain's work-starved shipyard again yesterday by taking yet another passenger ship contract abroad. Just a week after agreeing to send the Queen Elizabeth 2 to Germany for a £4.5m winter refit, the line confirmed that the 25,000-ton *Vistafjord* is to have a £3m overhaul in Malta, and her sister the *Sagafjord* in San Francisco.

Malta Dry Docks is the yard which caused a furore earlier in the year by winning a £3m contract for a post-Falklands refit of the 17,000-ton *Cunard* Countess after British yards said they could not do it in time.

And a year ago Cunard proposed to build a replacement for the container-ship *Atlantic Conveyor*, sunk in the Falklands, in South Korea - an order eventually placed at Swan Hunter's yard on the Tyne after a £15m grant from the Government.

The *Vistafjord* is one of two cruise ships bought by Cunard from Norwegian America Line for £46m in May, and Cunard said last night that she was being dry-docked in Malta because that was where the Norwegian line had planned to refit her and were delivering her.

The *Sagafjord*, 24,000 tons, will be dry-docked in San Francisco about the same time for exactly the same reason, Cunard added.

Unlike the first three ships, British yards were not asked to quote for the two latest contracts and were not surprised. "Naturally our salesmen were watching these ships in case the change of ownership brought work our way, but we were not asked to quote and were not expecting to be," a British Shipbuilders spokesman said.

But the shipyard unions reacted with predictable fury. Mr James Murray, leader of the boilermakers' section of the General Municipal, Boilermakers and Allied Trades Union, accused Cunard of "putting greed and profit as a higher motive than their interest in the British shipbuilding industry".

Placing the *Vistafjord* order in Malta was "the final nail in the

Iron Lady sends the west wild

From Trevor Fishlock Toronto

Mrs Margaret Thatcher flew west last night to meet a man after her own heart. He is tough, plain speaking, intimidating and uncompromising, and, in Thatcher-speak-terms, as dry as desert sand.

This John Wayne of the prairies is Mr Peter Lougheed, Tory Premier Alberta and formidable champion of provincial rights in the battles with the Federal Government in Ottawa.

Mrs Thatcher, who was scheduled to breakfast with Mr Lougheed, was eager to learn of Alberta's oil riches, enterprise, rugged individualism and all that.

The boom, unfortunately, is over and people are leaving. And Edmonton, the provincial capital, tops the Canadian figures for wife-battering, alcoholism and suicide.

Mrs Thatcher is enjoying Canada, and Canadians are enjoying her. They wanted to see the amazing Iron Lady and that is what she is giving them.

Her setpiece speech to Parliament was a triumph and her vigorous confrontationalist style



Canadian meeting: Mrs Thatcher with Mr William Davis, Premier of Ontario.

delighted a banquet audience in Toronto. After one burst of applause she glanced at Mr Pierre Trudeau, the Canadian Prime Minister, who was next to her, and said: "I am doing well with this audience, Pierre". It was hard to guess what Mr Trudeau was thinking. He and Mrs Thatcher disagree on how the Russians should be faced, and Mr Trudeau in his speech had failed of the need for courage to lower tension. But Mrs Thatcher, prefacing

Australia gets bolt as well as cup



Cup glory: A jubilant Mr Alan Bond, head of the victorious Australian syndicate, with the America's Cup.

Reagan plea for IMF funding

From Frances Williams and Bailey Morris, Washington

President Reagan strongly attacked the United States Congress yesterday warning of a global "economic nightmare" if warring Republicans and Democrats are unable to resolve their differences and approve \$8.5 billion in new funds for the International Monetary Fund.

In a hard-hitting address opening the formal sessions of the IMF's joint annual meeting with the World Bank, Mr Reagan told the world's finance ministers and central bankers that the increase in funds was crucial to the present economic recovery.

"This legislation is not only crucial to the recovery of America's trading partners and to the stability of the entire financial system but it is also necessary to a sustained recovery in the United States", Mr Reagan said in his first public attack against the feuding Congressmen.

Delegates from 150 nations also heard impassioned appeals, from the heads of the IMF and the World Bank, for adequate resources to manage the world's continuing debt crisis.

Much of the focus of the preliminary sessions before the formal opening meeting was on the urgent need for the US Congress to break a deadlock over legislation approving the US contribution.

The President's grim warning of the consequences that would result from failure to approve the funds echoed that of senior British officials. As one senior British official said: "What would cause the whole bloody thing to collapse if Congress fails to pass the US quota increase."

In another development yesterday, Mr Nigel Lawson held his first bilateral meeting as Chancellor with Mr Donald Regan, the US Treasury Secretary, and raised the British Government's strong concern over the Reagan Administration's failure to resolve the unitary tax issue. In response to growing British pressure, the President attempted last week to find a compromise solution to the controversial levy - which taxes multinational companies according to a proportion of their world-wide income rather than their local profits - by saying that a special commission would study the issue.

But British officials are not at all happy with the decision and Continued on back page, col 7

Americans put on a brave face

From David Miller, Newport

The 3ft iron bolt which for 132 years has screwed the America's Cup to a table in the New York Yacht Club was presented yesterday to the Perth property and oil millionaire, Mr Alan Bond, head of the victorious Australian II syndicate.

At a ceremony at the Marble House, former home of the Vanderbilt family memorabilia on fashionable Bellevue Avenue here, a crowd of about 200 saw the New York Yacht Club commodore Mr Robert Stone, and ex-commodore, Mr Bus Mossbacher, hand over the cup to Royal Perth Yacht Club commodore, Mr Peter Dalziel.

In giving the bolt to Mr Bond, Mr Stone said that he hoped he would not be keeping it for 132 years, but felt he ought to have it.

The presentation ceremony came as a surprise. It had been expected that it would take place in two or three days' time in the club premises in New York. Mr Stone, putting a brave face on the end of sporting history, said that there was no other country to whom the club would rather hand the trophy.

This had been the sixth Australian challenge. Searching for a simile that did not quite match the historic moment on the terrace at the rear of the mansion facing seawards through the beach, Mr Stone said he felt he knew how the Australians

would feel, remembering what it had been like when the United States beat the Soviet Union at ice hockey in the last winter Olympics.

In thanking everyone involved in the series, including the elimination races which lasted more than three months, Mr Stone mentioned the jury of the International Yacht Racing Union, "for keeping our races honest". That begged the question of what the IYRU might think of Liberty's vain attempt to retain the trophy by changing her ballast and rating for the seventh and final race. The Australians had objected but did not protest on the day.

Mr Dalziel, dressed in an all-white, military-style uniform - which I suspect is unlikely to become as fashionable as Mr Ben Lexcen's innovative yacht design - said that the training, discipline and dedication had enabled his squad to come back from 3-1 down. That is true, but most people here know that it was really the keel which did it.

The star of the show this summer has undoubtedly been Mr Lexcen, who was presented with an old hub cap off a Plymouth car as a response to a joke he is said to have made that if they won the cup they would have it rolled into an Australian plate.

More photographs and Australian euphoria, back page

Missiles to be deployed despite offer

From Nicholas Ashford Washington

Officials said yesterday that the United States still expected to go ahead with the deployment of the first 41 Pershing 2 and ground-launched cruise missiles in West Germany and Britain in December despite the latest conciliatory gesture by President Reagan towards the Soviet Union.

However, they did not believe that the initial negative reaction for Moscow was its last word on the new US initiative and expressed hope that the Soviet Union might soon produce a serious counter-proposal at the Geneva arms reduction talks.

But they did not expect this to happen until Nato had proved its ability to weather the anti-nuclear demonstrations expected to take place in Western Europe this autumn.

It was partly to defuse anti-nuclear sentiment in Europe that Mr Reagan decided publicly to unveil the new US proposals to reduce intermediate range nuclear (INF) weapons in his speech to the UN General Assembly on Monday.

The officials expressed the view that as a public relations exercise the President's speech had been largely successful. Mr Reagan discussed his new initiative with President Kovisto of Finland during a meeting at the White House yesterday.

The main American concession would allow the Soviet Union to keep more INF missiles in Europe than the United States so long as there was "global equality" in the number of warheads. America also agreed to include nuclear-capable medium-range bomber aircraft in the Geneva talks and to reduce the number of Pershing 2 missiles in proportion to the overall number of missiles the United States would eventually deploy.

Reagan condemned, page 6

INCURABLE? -Yes.



UNHAPPY? -No.

The British Home & Hospital for Incurables specialises in looking after men and women suffering from progressive paralytic diseases. They need very special care and attention. Some are helpless, bedridden... these unlucky ones have to be nursed, really cared for, with compassion, courtesy and patience. The BHHI receives no State aid. We must rely upon your generosity for a very worthy cause.

More than a hospital - much more than a 'Home'

BHHI

The British Home & Hospital for Incurables
Crown Lane, Streatham, London SW16 3IB

PATRON: HM QUEEN ELIZABETH, THE QUEEN MOTHER

صكذمان الاصل

Roads system adequate by end of decade, Government promises

By Michael Bailey, Transport Editor

Britain's roads programme is racing ahead, helped by lower inflation and fierce competition among contractors, the Government claimed yesterday.

More than £2,000m will be spent on roads in England this year, and by the end of the decade almost all the need for inter-urban roads will have been met.

When that time comes, according to a White Paper published yesterday, the emphasis will shift from roads between towns and cities to movement within them.

Traffic is taking place with local authorities about a revised primary road network to meet the needs of the next century, and how to cope with traffic in towns.

The answer to the last is unlikely to be simply more roads,

the White Paper says, especially in dense inner areas where the cost of roads is high and the social and visual damage is great.

A comprehensive replacement of the road system in places like inner London is not the answer, the White Paper says. "But there will be places where new or significantly improved roads are the right answer."

These will be combined with improved techniques of traffic management, parking controls and lorry routes, and the needs of public transport.

Such urban roads as are built will need to ease congestion, especially where public transport would be helped, take heavy through traffic out of shopping and residential areas, improve

access for industry and commerce, and improve the condition and appearance of the roads, the White Paper says.

Of the £2,000m being spent this year, more than £500m is going on new and improved motorways, trunk roads and by-passes, and about £300m on improving and maintaining local authority roads.

The star of the programme continues to be London's orbital motorway, the M25, of which more than half - 62 out of 121 miles - is open, and a further third under construction.

The M11 Dartford Tunnel link was completed in the spring and traffic from the Midlands, North and Scotland will be able to travel all the way to Dover on motorways or dual-carriageways when the next section to the A1 is completed.

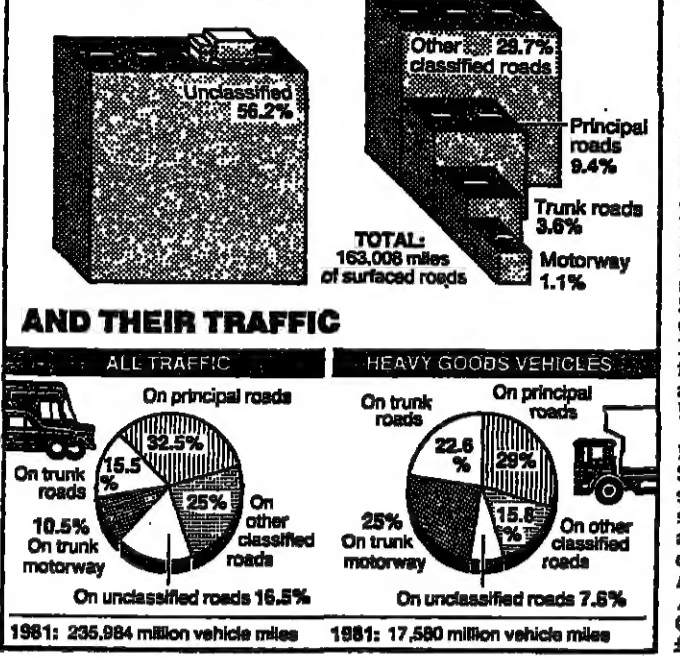
Other key schemes opened this year include part of the M63 Manchester outer ring road, the southern by-pass of Ipswich and the A180 to Lillingham.

Another 190 miles of new trunk road is at present under construction, including the remaining sections of the M25 in the west and south-west of London (contracts for a 12½-mile stretch from Heathrow to Rickmansworth have also been let; the last sections of the M27 north of Southampton, parts of the M65 Calder Valley motorway in Lancashire, the M3 extension from Basingstoke to Winchester, and the M42 to the south of Birmingham).

Commenting on the White Paper yesterday Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Transport, said: "The main inter-urban road structure is there, but inner-urban areas lack good roads, the southeast as much as anywhere."

Policy for Roads in England: 1983. (Department of Transport, Cmnd 9059, Stationery Office, £4.65.)

BRITAIN'S ROADS...



Job losses ahead, Jenkin tells TUC

By David Walker, Local Government Correspondent

Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, yesterday told a delegation from the TUC to expect "substantial" job losses from the Government's rate-capping plan.

He also admitted that there would be "disruption, distress and hardship" because of the abolition of the Greater London Council and the metropolitan counties. Jobs would be lost, he said, but he would give no precise figure.

Speaking to members of the TUC's local government committee, which represents two million workers in municipal employment, Mr Jenkin denied that he planned to cut 300,000 jobs over two years, a figure estimated by the TUC.

Mr Fred Jarvis, general secretary of the National Union of Teachers, said that the Government would be increasing unemployment in inner-city areas where unemployment was at a high level.

● The Society of Metropolitan Treasurers has rejected the Government's plan to control rates as uncertain and unsound.

The society, representing finance officials from London and the metropolitan areas, said it had no wish to get into a political argument with the Government. Instead, it had evaluated the practical aspects of the Government's scheme to cap the rates of up to 20 high-spending councils and found it wanting.

Pre-Christmas job prospects are brighter

By Andrew Corns

Britain's 2.9m unemployed stand a better chance of finding jobs before Christmas than at any time in the past four years, according to a survey of employment prospects published today.

The survey of nearly 1,200 employers representing more than three million staff was conducted by Manpower, the temporary employment services company. It reveals that twice as many companies intend to take on extra staff in the next quarter as expect job losses, which makes it the brightest fourth quarter of the year since the end of 1979.

Normally the Christmas quarter sees a sharp fall in recruitment activity, but this time the proportion of employers expecting to take on staff is virtually the same as the relatively buoyant last quarter.

Ballot urged as Vauxhall strike threat recedes

By Our Labour Editor

The threat of an all-out strike by 14,500 manual workers at Vauxhall Motors receded yesterday after some shop stewards called for a secret ballot and Mr Terence Duffy, leader of the engineering workers, appealed to the workers to await the outcome of a national conference of the two parties.

Mass meetings have been called at the company's plants in Luton, Dunstable and Ellesmere Port to reject a "final offer" of 8 per cent pay rises spread over 14 months, and to prepare for industrial action. The unions are claiming £25 a week.

The mass meetings began at Ellesmere Port yesterday when 1,800 production workers belonging to the Transport and General Workers' Union voted to reject the company's offer.

Castle sale fetches £2.1m so far

By Louise Nicholson

Christie's three-day sale of the contents of Luttrellstown Castle outside Dublin continued yesterday as successfully as it began on Monday, bringing the total so far to IR£2,656,759 (£2.1m).

The morning session, devoted to pictures and silver, made IR£681,577 (£536,679).

London dealer, Mr Roy Miles, said IR£1,840,000 estimate for George Elgar Hicks's romantic portrait of Adelaide Maria, Countess of Iveagh.

She was the cousin and wife of Edward Guinness, first Lord Iveagh, and grandmother of Mr Aileen Plunkett, who is selling the castle and its contents.

Another family portrait made IR£14,040. It shows Mrs Plunkett's father, Arthur Ernest Guinness, who bought the castle in 1927 and gave it to his daughter.

Christie's described the sale so far as "an accolade to Mrs Plunkett's discerning eye and amazing flair and taste".

The trial continues today.

He then fired and hit Mr Martin in the back of the neck.

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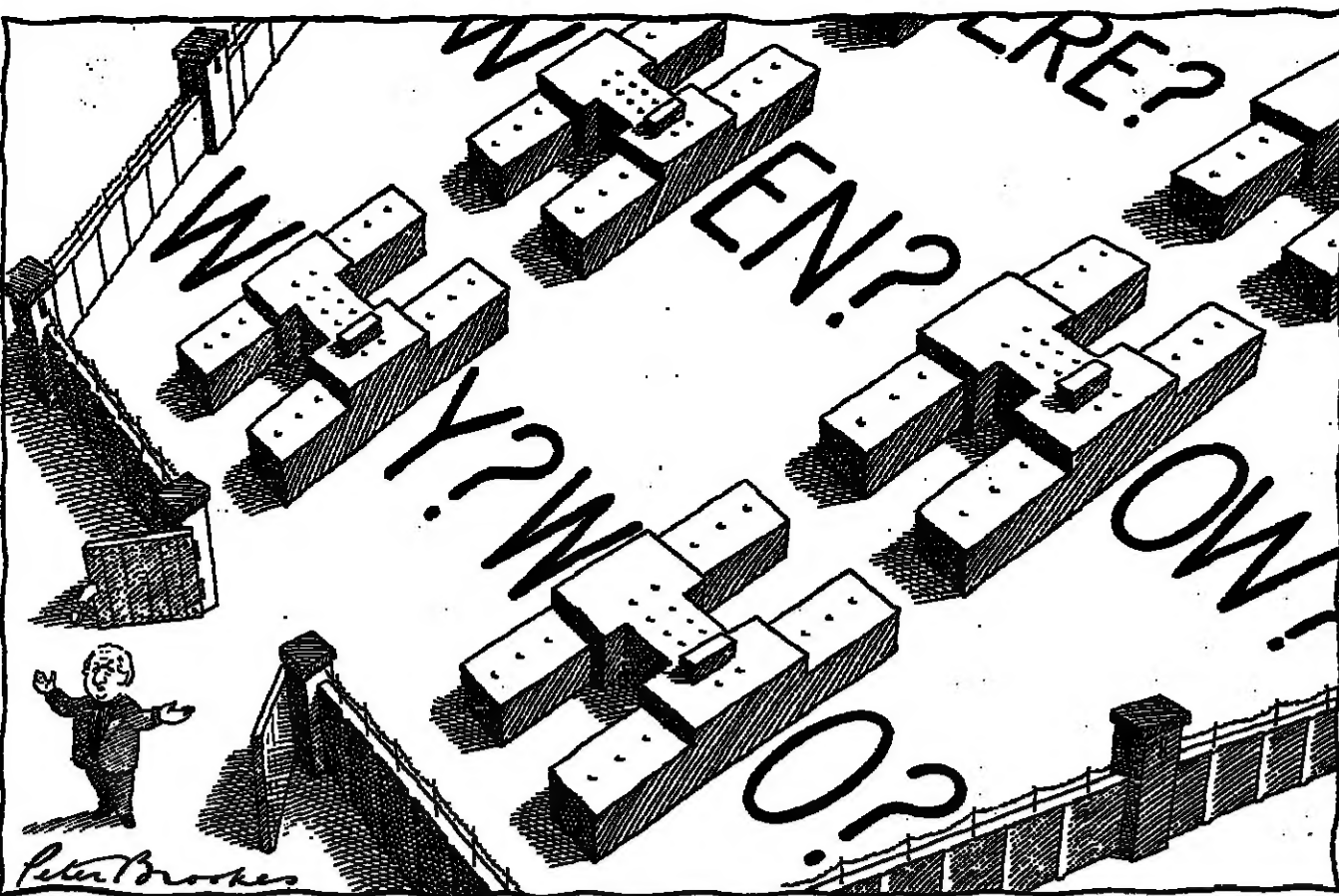
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Martin 'hit in face with pistol'

By John Withers

David Martin was hit across the face with a pistol by a policeman as he lay wounded in a pool of blood outside his flat, a jury at the Central Criminal Court was told yesterday.

Mr Kenneth Richardson, QC, for the prosecution, read part of a written statement by Det Constable Peter Finch in which he said that Mr Martin was reaching for his gun so he hit him across the face with his pistol and pushed the gun away.

The jury has been told that Constable Finch has not been called to give evidence because he was charged after the shooting of Mr Stephen Waldorf in London earlier this year and the case has not been heard.

The arrest of Mr Martin occurred on September 15, 1982, when several police officers waited for him as he returned to his flat in Crawford Place, west London. The Crown alleges that Mr Martin, aged 36, was shot in the neck as he resisted arrest but the defence maintains he was shot without warning.

Mr Martin has had pleas of not guilty entered against 15 charges, including the attempted murder of Police Constable Nicholas Carr.

Yesterday the court heard evidence from Police Constable Peter Van Dee, who fired the shot. He told the jury that he saw Mr Martin struggling with Constable Finch.

"I suddenly saw something in Martin's right hand and I realized it was a silver-coloured revolver. I brought up my weapon to the aim position and shouted: 'Freeze. Armed police!' He pointed the gun at the officer and I sincerely believe he was going to shoot him", PC Van Dee said.

He then fired and hit Mr Martin in the back of the neck.

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No fight over 506 axed health jobs

By Pat Healy, Social Services Correspondent

The projected revolt of the Mersey regional health authority over the 506 job cuts agreed between its chairman and officers with the Department of Health and Social Services fizzled out last night.

Instead of demanding that the job cuts be withdrawn, the authority accepted them by nine votes to five and went on to urge the Government not to repeat the exercise.

Meanwhile, the chairman and officers of the North-east Thames regional health authority spent more than three hours discussing the cuts, but in the end they decided they should not accept job cuts of 1,416 by next March. North-east Thames is the only one of four Thames regions not to have settled yet on a compromise figure and the talks were adjourned last night.

Talks so far have produced settlements amounting to the loss of 3,503 jobs in five regions, while three are to be allowed to employ 1,123 more staff, which they say is not enough to staff hospitals due to open in the next few months.

The Mersey cuts will mean several nurses' jobs having to go before the end of the financial year, but all posts for doctors and dentists will be protected. The worst effects will be felt in Liverpool, where two orthopaedic wards, one in a children's hospital and the other in a geriatric hospital will be closed.

The General Municipal Bakers and Allied Trades Union is to move an emergency motion at next week's Labour Party conference condemning the cuts.

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Paisley hits at Maze security lapses

From Richard Ford, Belfast

As the hunt for the 21 Provisional IRA escapees from the Maze prison continued yesterday the Reverend Ian Paisley alleged that there had been 12 serious lapses of security in the jail, allowing the prisoners to flee.

But the Northern Ireland Office denied the Democratic Unionist Party leader's claim that Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, had told him of security failures and his allegation that the main gate was open at the time of the escape.

With Mr Paisley saying that the inquiry begun by Sir James Hennessy, Chief Inspector of Prisons, would be a "whitewash", some of the recaptured prisoners were being questioned by the police at the Castlereagh holding centre in east Belfast.

Others were being interrogated inside the high-security jail by a team of detectives headed by a Detective Chief Superintendent which has been set up to investigate the murder of Mr James Ferris, aged 43, the prison officer, stabbed to death in the break-out on Sunday.

All visits and receipt of food parcels at the Maze have been banned by the Prison Officers' Association as a mark of respect for Mr Ferris whose funeral, which will be attended by Mr Nicholas Scott, Under-Secretary of State with responsibility for prisons, tomorrow. Three prison officers injured in the escape remain in prison along with one prisoner injured during his recapture.

Thousands of troops and policemen were still operating round the Maze yesterday, although detectives accept that almost three days after the escape they will need a "lucky break" in their hunt for the fugitives. People were given warnings not to approach the "dangerous and desperate men" and to secure their homes and vehicles.

Detectives believe that the scale of the hunt may have forced the fleeing prisoners to lie low in Ulster areas where they would find "safe houses" before attempting to move for the border with the Irish Republic at the weekend.

But with the prison only 40 minutes from the border and three of the cars used by the gang still missing, it is likely that some may have already crossed into the Republic on the maze of unauthorized roads.

As the hunt was stepped up, traffic was unable to move for more than five miles without coming across a road block where vehicles were searched and drivers were asked for identification.

As Sir James visited the prison Mr Paisley said there had been 12 serious lapses of security, including the smuggling of five handguns and two replicas into the complex. He alleged they had got through at least seven gates within the complex without the alarm being raised and that some doors could have been opened only from the inside.

He also claimed that the outside gate was open and the Army was either not at the perimeter fence or did not react quickly enough and the back-up facilities were slowing arriving.

The Northern Ireland Office denied the gate was open.

Father flees after release

Mr Patrick Gilmour, father of a Provisional IRA "supergrass", was forced to go into hiding yesterday only hours after being freed from captivity when a mob besieged his home in the Creggan estate in Londonderry.

Mr Gilmour returned home after 10 months in IRA captivity. Leading article, page 13

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Life sentence by court martial

Triple-killing soldier convicted

An Irish Army private was sentenced to penal servitude for life yesterday for shooting dead three of his colleagues in the United Nations peacekeeping force in the Lebanon last October. His lawyer said he would appeal.

Michael McAleavey, aged 22, a bachelor from the Falls Road, Belfast, was found guilty at the end of a 36-day court-martial at The Curragh, co Kildare.

He had denied murdering Corporal Gregory Morrow, and Private Peter Burke, both aged 20, and Private Thomas Murphy, aged 19, all from Dublin, while on vehicle checkpoint duty at Tibnin Bridge.

"I just held my finger on the trigger. What happened is like a dream," he told detectives.

An argument started between McAleavey and two Israelis who drove up to their checkpoint. One began talking to him in Hebrew, McAleavey said. "I called him a Jew boy".

The truck drove away and McAleavey and the corporal swore at each other. Half an hour later the shooting started.

The families of each of the three victims received about £32,000 compensation from the United Nations and the Irish Army.

Mrs Colette Morrow, the widow of one, yesterday sat through much of the evidence. Afterwards she would say only of McAleavey: "he took three lives".

Mrs Brigid Murphy, mother of another victim, said: "Nothing can bring my son back."

After leaving school he became a clerical assistant in the Falls Road labour exchange. But he disliked the drudgery of an office job and in 1979 he left to join the Irish Army.

The trial continues today.



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Junior housemen criticized by GPs after death of 6 patients

From Tim Jones, Cardiff

General practitioners who send patients to the Prince Charles Hospital in Merthyr Tydfil, Mid Glamorgan, where six people have died during the past year shortly after being refused admission or discharged, have claimed that junior housemen appear to be challenging their assessments.

The family doctors want a meeting with senior consultants at the hospital to draw up an agreed medical admissions procedure. Mid Glamorgan Health Authority has already announced an inquiry into practices at the hospital, where there is often a shortage of medical beds because of the area's high illness rate.

In spite of the authority's claim that the record of the hospital's casualty department is as good as that of any other, Mr Edward Rowlands, Labour MP for Merthyr and Rhymney, has said that there is a "clear and growing concern" over some of the cases it handles.

It emerged yesterday that Mrs Janice James, aged 43, died a few hours after holding a small party to celebrate her discharge from the hospital. She died of heart disease which, her doctors point out, is not uncommon even in apparently fit people.

One GP, Dr Aul Srivastava, made a formal complaint to the hospital after learning that a woman patient, aged 53, had died of a heart complaint at her home although he had asked for her to be admitted.

He said yesterday: "This problem does not occur with surgical cases, who are admitted straight away into the wards. But in medical cases it appears that often junior doctors of limited experience challenge the judgment of experienced family doctors."

Dr Srivastava added: "I believe that the decision to refuse admission or to discharge a patient should be taken only by a senior consultant."

The four other people who died were Mr Ian Nolan, aged 27, who died 24 hours after leaving the hospital; Mrs Doris Jones, aged 57, who died six hours after being sent home; Emma Louise Dillon, aged five months, who died of pneumonia nine days after being sent home; and Mr John Simpson, who died of pneumonia 24 hours after being discharged from the casualty department.

Dr Neville Hughes, the authority's chief medical officer, confirmed that one of the areas to be covered by the inquiry would be the level of decision taken which covers admissions and discharges.

He said: "The crisis at the hospital now is one of very low morale, which you can well understand. Wholesale criticisms going back for some years are now being made but are not justified in the vast majority of cases."

"The relatively low number of complaints have to be put in perspective and set against the hundreds of cases of patients who are treated entirely satisfactorily."

Senior members of the authority consider that the inquiry will centre primarily on procedures and systems rather than on individual members of the medical staff. However, no area of enquiry will be closed to it.

The authority has confirmed that because of the shortage of beds in the hospital, opened five years ago, it is often more convenient to send patients to the accident and emergency department where initial assessments can be made.

Portraits of the artists making monumental decisions



Members of the Society of Portrait Sculptors making their selections for an exhibition in the Mall Gallery, London, which will run from October 17 to 22. Right: One of the judges, Miss Freda Skinner, deliberating. (Photographs: John Voos).

Teenagers 'embarrassed by trendy parents'

From Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent, Cambridge

Parents and teachers should be firm with adolescents and not attempt to copy their dress or behaviour, Dr Martyn Gay, a consultant psychiatrist from Bristol, told the Headmasters' Conference yesterday.

Addressing its annual meeting in Cambridge, he said he was worried by parents and other adults who tried to blur the gap between children and adults. "In some schools you cannot see the difference between teachers and taught in dress, behaviour or anything else," he said.

"I am sure there are adolescents who are very embarrassed fre-

quently by the behaviour of their parents. It is necessary to have a generation boundary between adolescents and adults."

Dr Gay, who works at the Bristol Royal Hospital for Sick Children, had five pieces of advice for adults in dealing with young people.

They must be firm; they must be consistent; they must be able to communicate with young people yet remain distant from them; they must be sensitive to the aggressive feelings in themselves which adolescents brought out; and they should provide a stimulating environment in which

adolescents could grow and change.

Dr Gay said later that the number of adolescent patients referred to him by schools was increasing. He thought that this was because of greater public awareness about the problems of young people.

They were referred for various reasons: because they could not work; they could not cope with people; they stole; or they suffered physical pain.

The big public schools represented by the Headmasters' Conference were able to expel

pupils instead of referring them to a psychiatrist, he said. They might then end up as a secure unit such as Kingswood in Bristol, after murdering or raping someone.

The irony was that the fathers of such pathological individuals were often pathological themselves but were regarded as successful, he said.

"In society we see relatively pathological individuals as heads of large companies. They provide the children that you look after. We see them in society as acceptable. That sort of behaviour is seen as success," Dr Gay said.

Store sued for arrest

From Our Correspondent, York

Miss Doris White, aged 72, yesterday began a rare legal action against a department store that called her a thief.

She is suing W. P. Brown of York, which wrongly accused her of stealing a Christmas card and subjected her to a "humiliating" interrogation. She is alleging false imprisonment and wrongful arrest.

The hearing at York County Court is believed to be the first of its kind for more than 40 years to involve a jury in a civil law suit. Miss White, of Hampden Street York, is claiming £3,000 damages from the family firm.

Christmas shopping in December, 1981, she was followed by a store manager who had told her that a customer saw her taking a card from the display and putting it into her shopping bag.

The police later discovered she had not bought or stolen anything from the store in Davygate, York.

The manager caught up with her in the office of a local newspaper. She told the jury that the man snatched her shopping bag.

Miss White was taken back to the store and made to sit in a cubicle in full view of shoppers for 20 minutes.

The hearing continues today.

Spurned mistress describes killing

A woman sobbed yesterday as she described to a murder trial jury at the Central Criminal Court how she killed her aging millionaire lover with a champagne bottle after he taunted her about her sexuality and said he was rejecting her for a younger mistress.

Mrs Pamela Megginson, aged 61, is accused of murdering Mr Alec Hubbers, aged 79, a furniture company director, with whom she lives at his home in The Bishops Avenue, Hampstead, London.

She discovered that Mr Hubbers had a new, younger mistress, Madame Nicole Arnaud from Monaco, and had arranged to sell Madame Arnaud his flat at Cap Ferrat in the South of France. Last October, Mr Hubbers took Mrs Megginson back to Cap Ferrat where he told her that he was in love with Madame Arnaud. "He

said he wanted her to take my place, and wanted to get rid of me."

"He said I wasn't as good in bed as she was. It was all horrible. She was beautiful and lovely to him, and I wasn't, any more."

Despite his taunts they went to bed together at the flat on October 14 and began "to get more friendly", and indulge in sex. "But then, he started pushing me away, and hitting me. He turned on his side and said he didn't want to be bothered with me again. I picked up a champagne bottle from the drinks bar by the bed and I hit him over the head. I went mad, and I was crazy. I lost all self-control."

"I realized he must be dead after I stopped trembling. I was so frantic and frenzied that I can't remember a thing."

The trial continues.

Boys' invention solves problem for blind

By Kenneth Gooling

A new machine to help the blind and partially sighted to read and write has been invented by three pupils at Sevenoaks School in Kent, using a system of symbols devised in 1847. It could be in production next year and the three young inventors hope it will cost no more than an ordinary typewriter.

Yesterday Chris Berry, aged 16, and Neil Darracott, and Jon Harlow, both 17, were in London to receive a £500 award for having solved a problem that has defeated their elders for well over a century: how to adapt Dr William Moon's system of embossed writing, using an alphabet of only nine characters, so that virtually anyone, blind or sighted, can write it.

Up to now, the only way to write in Moon, which is considerably simpler than Braille, has been to use a special embossing press.

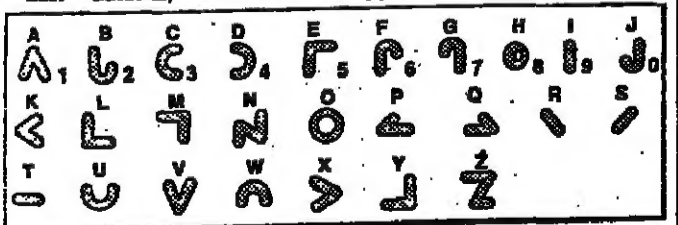
Last autumn, Mr Cedric

Garland, technical officer of the Royal National Institute for the blind, asked Mr Gerd Sommerhoff, director of the Centre of Creative Technology at Sevenoaks School, to tackle the problem.

The three boys, working under his supervision, produced five machines. Neil Darracott said: "All of them worked at one stage or another, but we finally developed the Moonwriter, which is a cross between a pen and a typewriter."

The Patients' Aid Association put up the £500 prize money for the David Scott Blackhall award, given annually in memory of the BBC Radio 4 *In Touch* programme's former presenter, for the best invention to help the blind.

The prototype, which is smaller than a portable typewriter, will now undergo three months' field trials at the Centre for the Education of the Visually Handicapped in Birmingham.



The Moon alphabet - nine symbols in different orientations representing the letters and numbers.

Fugitive's bail backers lose £90,000

Four people were ordered yesterday to forfeit a total of £90,000 in bail they put up for an American, facing pornography smuggling charges, who fled from London to New York last month.

The Recorder of London, Sir James Miskin, QC, sitting at the Central Criminal Court, said he would not order the four sureties to forfeit all the £150,000 they had put up, because they had not been negligent. The American, Scott Dorman, aged 33, described as a book distributor, had behaved abominably, he said.

Mr Dorman's fiancée, Rosemary Unsworth, a *Times* Business News journalist, is to forfeit £15,000, as is Andrew Eagle, a television producer. Miss Unsworth's father, a dentist, and Victoria Morris, an advertising agent, must each pay £30,000.

Businessmen give B-Cal top airline award

By Michael Bailey, Transport Editor

British Caledonian has displaced British Airways as the British businessmen's favourite airline - despite BA's publicity campaign to the contrary - according to a survey among readers of the magazine *Executive Travel*. Swissair came third.

For domestic flights, British Midland, the "friendly independent" which is challenging BA's Shuttle routes was voted best, followed by British Caledonian and British Airways.

The state airline came top in the transatlantic category for the second successive year however. The airlines preferred by readers of *Executive Travel*, who make a combined total of 500,000 trips a year are as follows (last year's winners in brackets):

World's best airline: 1 B-Cal (BA),

2 BA (Swissair), 3 Swissair (Lufthansa).

Best transatlantic: 1 BA (BA), 2 TWA (TWA), 3 B-Cal (PanAm).

Best to Europe: 1 Swissair (Lufthansa), 2 BA (Swissair), 3 Lufthansa (BA).

Best to Far East: 1 Cathay Pacific (Cathay Pacific), 2 Singapore (Singapore), 3 Thai (Thai).

Best to Middle East: 1 Gulf (Gulf), 2 BA (Swissair), 3 Swissair (Cathay).

Best to Africa: 1 B-Cal (B-Cal), 2 South African Airways (Swissair), 3 BA (SAA).

Best to Caribbean, Central and S America: 1 B-Cal, 2 Varig, 3 BA.

Best to Pacific: 1 Air New Zealand, 2 Qantas, 3 UTA.

Best US domestic: 1 American Airlines (American), 2 Delta (Delta), 3 United (United).

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Mrs Patel with (from left) Sanjesh, Diptesh and Jayesh yesterday (Photograph: Bill Warhurst).

Expelled sons reunited with mother

By Nicholas Timmins

Three Indian boys, expelled from Britain four years ago amid publicity, were finally reunited with their mother at Heathrow airport, London, yesterday.

Jayesh, aged 20, Sanjesh, aged 17, and Diptesh, aged 14, have been granted the right to settle in the United Kingdom with their mother, Mrs Manjula Patel, aged 43, who is divorced, after a four-year battle against the immigration procedures that has cost her several thousand pounds.

Mrs Patel, of Gillingham, Kent, who works in a food factory, said: "I am so happy that my children are back home. For the past four years the boys have lived in terrible conditions in India in a dirty place with six or seven people in one room. The Home Office should have recognized in the first place that I was telling the truth. They could have

given me my children very easily a long time ago."

Mrs Patel, who is now a British citizen, first came to Britain in 1975. She was granted the right to stay permanently in 1978. She maintained that her marriage had broken down years before and that her husband, described by the Immigration Appeal Tribunal as a wastrel, took no responsibility for the children who were living with their grandparents.

In 1979 she brought the three children to England without entry clearance because the elderly grandparents could not look after them properly and asked that they be allowed to stay.

Despite a campaign to allow them to stay that was supported by Dr Donald Coggan, who was then Archbishop of Canterbury, the Home Office insisted that

they return to India to apply for entry in the normal way.

When they did so, clearance was refused in November, 1979. An appeal was rejected last year. But in July this year a tribunal agreed that the children should be admitted.

The tribunal nevertheless called Mrs Patel "a shameless liar" because of discrepancies over when her marriage broke down and her knowledge of her husband's whereabouts. But it concluded that the basis of her claim, that she was solely responsible for the children, was valid.

Mr Pratul Patel, of the Committee on United Kingdom Citizenship who comes from the same village in Gujarat, western India as Mrs Patel, said: "The Home Office could have shown a lot more understanding, compassion and humanity four years

ago. The children have lost four of their formative years and the family has had much unnecessary suffering."

At Heathrow the children, smartly dressed but speaking little English, said they hoped to be able to study in England, with Diptesh, the youngest child going to school.

● The Greater London Council yesterday joined the campaign to allow several hundred Cypriot refugees to remain in Britain. The refugees, who came after the Turkish invasion of Cyprus in 1974, are under threat of deportation.

Mr Kenneth Livingstone, leader of the GLC, said: "These refugees have settled here and earned their living here. Their children have gone to school here and in many cases have been born here. This is their home, not Cyprus."

Mugabe supporters chant anti-British songs and call for whites to go

Harare (AFP) - Supporters of Mr Robert Mugabe, the Zimbabwean Prime Minister, marched through the streets of Harare yesterday, denouncing Britain and calling for whites to leave Zimbabwe.

The demonstration followed Mugabe's attack on the Thatcher Government at the weekend.

About 1,000 members of the ruling Zimbabwe African National Union (Zanu), carrying anti-British placards, massed in front of the building housing the British High Commission and chanted: "Let them (whites) go".

Most of Zimbabwe's 140,000 whites are of British extraction.

A small group of demonstrators climbed the stairs to the sixth floor where the British Mission is located, singing anti-Thatcher songs. Officials from the High Commission spokesman called a "brief, informal" meeting with the demonstrators.

The demonstrators left the building and the crowd moved off peacefully after about 15 minutes.

But youths on the fringes of the crowd threatened white reporters, saying "British go home."

An angry Mr Mugabe told a press conference on Sunday, on his return from a tour to Ireland, the United States and Canada, that Zimbabwe's relations with the former colonial power had been harmed by British insistence that seven white Air Force officers detained on charges of sabotaging aircraft be freed. Four of the seven are dual British-Zimbabwean citizens. Three have been freed and deported, but four remain in jail here.

Criticising Britain of "intimidation and manipulation", Mr Mugabe said Zimbabwe could do without British aid and added that if Mrs Thatcher wanted whites of British extraction back, she had only to say so "and we will facilitate their repatriation."

The Prime Minister's statement was a notable departure from the policy of reconciliation with the white minority which he has followed since Zimbabwe gained independence under black rule in

1980 after a seven-year guerrilla war.

The demonstrators, the bulk of them members of the Zanu Women's League and headscarves bearing Mr Mugabe's picture, formed up outside a party office and marched through Harare's main shopping streets as white and black office workers hung out of windows to watch.

They carried signs proclaiming: "British passport holders go home"; "Thatcher, we want our aeroplanes back, swine"; "No reconciliation with imperialism"; "Stop pensions to former rebels"; and "Nationalize all settler farms now".

At his press conference, Mr Mugabe had suggested that if Britain persisted with what he called interference, his Government might default on its pledges to pay pensions for civil servants and military men who served under the Rhodesian regime and to pay for all white farmland taken over to resettle black peasants.

Dinner at Maxim's for China's high society

From David Bonavia Peking

Peking's high society gathered last night at the new branch of the famous Maxim's Restaurant of Paris, for a dinner hosted by its owner, M Pierre Cardin, the fashion designer.

Foreign ambassadors arrived in their chauffeur-driven limousines to eat a doubtless exquisite dinner. Chinese operators - who at an average worker's wage of 50 to 60 yuan (£16 to £20) a month the cost of a dinner at Maxim's would feed for months - gathered to watch the glittering procession of some 350 diplomats and other dignitaries.

The foreign press corps was treated to a modest but tasty dinner of fricassée de fruits de mer, filet de boeuf, with gratiné dauphinoise and a raspberry sorbet. They drank Pouilly Fuisse 81, Chateau d'Aillon 79, and Maxim's own champagne.

For the previous week wives of correspondents had schemed and intrigued to get invitations to the dinner which was originally meant only for their gastronomic spouses. One or two succeeded. The Chinese state though trained at only four days' notice, put up a creditable performance.

The guests included M Cardin's licensee, including a lady from Hungary, where he has just set up a boutique. He already has a rather sparsely patronized shop at the Temple of Heaven in Peking.

Having sent out invitation cards, specifying *tenue de ville* for the dinner, M Cardin later put the word around that those who had *le smoking* (dinner jacket) should wear it - to the chagrin of those who had dutifully turned out in lounge suits as instructed.

The inauguration has also been marked by fashion shows. M Cardin has been heard to remark many times: "Oh, que j'aime la Chine!" ("How I love China").

● Fashion show: Eighteen Chinese fashion models had earlier presented a complete range of ritzy ready-to-wear outfits designed in Paris by M Cardin but made in China entirely from local fabrics. (Reuters reports).

This unprecedented event took place at the Palace of Miaozi in Peking, better known for its evening events, in front of foreign buyers from 22 countries and Mrs Chen Mianhua, China's Foreign Trade Minister.

To the accompaniment of disco music, tall, leggy girls stalked down the catwalk in fur jackets, tapered black pants, mid-calf boots and French berets, or promaded in dresses of diaphanous silk.

Soviet sub intrusion confirmed

From Christopher Mosey Stockholm

The Swedish Navy yesterday disclosed more evidence to support its allegations that the Soviet Union had continually violated Swedish waters since 1981 when a Russian Whiskey-class submarine ran aground off the south-coast naval base of Karlskrona.

Admiral Bror Stenstrom, the Defence Chief of Staff, said that naval experts who had examined the vessel during its enforced stay in Swedish waters had identified imprints left on the sea bed outside the east-coast naval base off Muskö last year as coming from another Whiskey-class submarine.

He said that film taken from the sea bed in the Stockholm archipelago a month later, had shown similar imprints.

None of this information was made public in April when Sweden blamed the Soviet Union for the Muskö incident. The decision to release the evidence now reflects a deepening rift in the Swedish Government over the submarine incidents.

The Defence Ministry is anxious to combat what it sees as a campaign by the Foreign Ministry to play down the Soviet incursions.

Zhao reiterates hope to visit America

Peking (Reuters, AP) Mr Zhao Ziyang, the Chinese Premier, yesterday confirmed his intention of visiting the United States and reiterated the invitation for President Reagan to visit China.

Speaking before meeting the US Defence Secretary, Mr Casper Weinberger, Mr Zhao said: "There has been a trend for the better in Sino-US relations recently and I think this is something we welcome."

He said an exchange of visits would be made next spring, but further discussions were needed to set the date, including discussions with Mr Weinberger.

His statement was further confirmation of signs of a limited thaw in Sino-US relations in the past three months after a period of extreme tension over American arms sales to Taiwan.

Mr Zhao made it clear that serious differences remained, however. "I take it that you all know very clearly that the main obstacle in developing Sino-US relations is the question of Taiwan," he emphasized.

"Only when the question of Taiwan is solved will there be also a development of Sino-US relations."

China considers the continuing US arms sales to Taiwan as a

flagrant breach of its sovereignty over the nationalist island.

Referring to Mr Weinberger's offer to consider sales of defensive weapons to Peking, Mr Zhao said China would rely on its own efforts to modernize its huge but outdated military machine.

"It is inconceivable for a big nation like China to bring about the modernization of its national defence by buying military equipment from foreign countries," he said.

However, when asked if he would buy any US weapons, he said: "If the US side is willing to sell military equipment to China, if we have the need and the ability to buy the military equipment from the US, I would not exclude such a possibility."

Yesterday Mr Weinberger visited a peasant infantry division which grows cabbages on the target range and drills in guerrilla tactics.

He was taken to the No 1 division of the Peking guards for half an hour to watch hand-to-hand combat drills and target practice with rifles, mortars and machine-guns.

He ends his visit to Peking today after meeting Mr Deng Xiaoping, the Chinese leader, and flying to Xiah in the north-west.

A fury abroad The Gore Vidal phenomenon

From Peter Nichols, Ravella

It takes a sort of courage to take part of a gentle little Italian town to house first Richard Wagner and now Gore Vidal, who this week received the honorary citizenship of Ravella.

The American author lives much of the year here and it is in this soft, exquisite location that he has written some of his most pitiless attacks on modern society. A part of his last book *Duluth* was written here.

So far he has spared Italy. "I can just see," Italo Calvino, the Italian writer, said at the Ravella ceremony, "the forces of his marvellous imagination hurt themselves on the public and private image of Italian society like the women police in *Duluth* throwing themselves into the hunt for unfortunate illegal Mexican aliens and obliging them to perform salacious strip teases in pages of cruelty and richness of invention which can take their place in the tradition of black humour from Swift to today."

One might add that Mr Vidal would certainly have had some barbs ready sharpened if instead of Ravella some British city had thought of honouring him. At the moment the "furies" of his scathing imagination rise easily to express indignation at the way British critics have dealt with him and his latest books.

"This is all part," he says scornfully, "of Britain's drift away from the centre of things. It's nothing any more. It belongs nowhere. Going there is like going to Oslo."

As for the critics, he feels that *The Times Literary Supplement*

review of *Duluth* was a prepared attack on him and irrelevant as a comment on his book. "When the editor then had the nerve to ask me to review a book for them I said before putting down the telephone 'I would be obliged if you would never phone me again'."

Ravella is certainly nothing like Oslo, but that cannot altogether explain the immunity Italy enjoys from Vidal's scorn. Like anyone else he was deeply impressed with the beauty of Ravella from his first visit in 1948 when he and Tennessee Williams arrived in a Jeep - "not on a donkey like Wagner".

There is no reason why one should not see in the choice he made to live in Ravella a softer and gentler side of Vidal which is less obvious than the cutting edge more evident in him. Signor Calvino in his impressive analysis of the Vidal phenomenon spoke of the new way of living abroad which Mr Vidal has devised. He knows Italy well but his real importance for him is that he allows him a sufficient distance to see more clearly the problems of the United States which are his real passion.

Mr Vidal's example, however, might be infectious. Signor Calvino talked of Mr Vidal's attacks on the United States at a time when American society was sure of itself and of its own state of health. And that marked the difference between American society and a fragile Italy. No Italian has ever satirized Italian society so radically. Yet only when such a writer had appeared here could Italy be sure of having become a great power.



Gore Vidal: "Britain is nothing any more. It belongs nowhere. Going there is like going to Oslo..."

£10m aid on the way to Mauritius

By Our Diplomatic Correspondent

Mr Alex Fletcher, Under Secretary at the Department of Trade and Industry, has tonight for Mauritius to give the final word on a £10m aid package for the island's new coalition government.

His visit follows talks in London between Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, and Mr Anil Gayan, Mauritian Minister for External Affairs who passed through London at the weekend on his way to

the UN General Assembly. Unemployment in Mauritius, which at 1000 is without work in a population of one million, is among the highest in the world, despite the export of skilled manpower to Zimbabwe, the Seychelles and the Gulf States.

More than a third of the budget has to be spent on servicing the foreign debt, which restricts attempts to create more jobs by public spending.

Overdependence on sugar exports which earn up to 85 per cent of the country's foreign exchange, is among the problems facing Mr Anerood Jugnauth's centre-left government after last month's election.

In an interview with *The Times* Mr Gayan said that part of the reason for his London stopover was to look at a promotion scheme to expand tourism

real one... Generally between 30 and 60 shots can be counted in a day, but there is no regular pattern."

Whipping was the most common form of torture, the whips consisting of woven leather, electric cables, hoses and a flexible wooden strip bound with wire.

Reports from Block 4 at Evvin describe uncooperative male prisoners being tied down and repeatedly thrashed across the testicles. Three of every ten men punished in this way are said to have died.

Two children aged 11, a girl at Isfahan and a boy from near Shiraz, are among those said to have been executed, along with a number of pregnant women.

In a letter to Ayatollah Khomeini, Amnesty has offered to send a delegation to Tehran to present its evidence to the

Secret killings in Iran jails

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

authorities. But previous protests to Iran have not provoked any response.

● TEHRAN: The president of the International Committee of the Red Cross left Tehran for Geneva yesterday after talks on the treatment of Iraqi prisoners of war, and visit to towns damaged in the Gulf war (Reuters reports).

Mr Alexandre Hay had met President Ali Khamenei of Iran, Mr Ali Akbar Velayati, the Foreign Minister, and his deputy, Mr Hossein Kazempour Ardabili.

M Jean-Paul Falier, the Red Cross chief delegate in Iran, said, He declined to give details of the talks.

Mr Hay had also visited Khorramshahr, much of which was bulldozed by Iraqi forces before being recaptured by Iran last year, and the towns of Abadan and Hovez.

Jobs boost for Sagunto

From a Correspondent, Madrid

from the Government's industrial restructuring plans to phase out the Sagunto steelworks, to the prospect of alternative employment.

The new jobs are to be provided by the establishment of a small fertilizer plant, auxiliary car industry, and joint ventures between the State and a foreign company in food and textile industry.

Señor Carlos Solchaga, the Minister of Industry, yesterday announced the creation of more than 1,000 jobs in Sagunto, in the Valencia region, to compensate for the planned cutbacks at the state-owned integrated steel works, Altos Hornos del Mediterráneo.

According to officials the announcement is aimed at deflecting workers' attention away

Refugee exodus changing flow

Geneva (Reuters) - Vietnamese refugees leaving under the orderly-departure programme, outnumbered last month for the first time the boat people arriving overseas.

The orderly-departure programme, agreed with the Vietnamese Government in 1981, accounted for more than 10,000 people in the first eight months of this year.

Accountant stole £372,000

From Our Correspondent Manchester

An accountant who earned only £5,000 a year lived a life of luxury on the £372,000 he stole from his employers who ran a chain of supermarkets.

Over a period of four years Alan Broadbent, aged 43, spent lavishly on cars, clothes, jewelry, fur coats and an extension to his detached home.

But at Manchester Crown Court yesterday Judge Booth jailed him for three and a half years.

"There can be no excuse for this," the judge told Broadbent, of Springfield Farm, Cockermill Lane, Royton, Lancashire.

Broadbent, who was not a qualified accountant, had admitted charges of forgery, false accounting and theft. He asked for 285 other offences to be considered while working for W. S. Wragg & Son (Grocers) Ltd.

Mr Stephen Meadowcroft, for the prosecution, said Broadbent was the firm's accountant for eight years.

Robots boost new Ford challenge

By Clifford Webb, Motoring Correspondent

Ford has spent £30m on robots and other automated machines in its British factories in an attempt to reduce the cost of producing the new Orion and Fiesta models to the level achieved by its continental plants. Both cars go on sale on Friday.

Production of the Orion, an enlarged version of the Escort but with a boot, which Ford hopes will recapture lost Cortina sales, began at Halewood last week. Since 1979 Ford has spent more than £250m on the Merseyside plant, usually accompanied by dire warnings about its future unless productivity improved dramatically.

Some progress has been made, but Halewood's Escorts still cost appreciably more to produce than those from Ford, Cologne. A large proportion of the latest investment went on 14 robot spot welders and electronically-controlled mechanical handling systems which the Escort will share with the Orion.

Mr Ted Raymont, Halewood

operations manager, said yesterday: "By the end of 1983 we shall have 102 robots at Halewood, making our plant one of the most modern of its type in Europe."

Investment for the 1984 Fiesta has been concentrated largely at Dagenham where new body panels called for changes in tooling.

Like all car makers nowadays Ford will not release new car prices until the last minute, to prevent competitors changing their own prices. Orion and Fiesta prices will be announced on Friday the launch day.

Ford also announced yesterday a £100,000 programme to help disabled people who want to drive. A specially-designed mobile electronic unit housed in a lorry will travel the country enabling them to determine the strength and coordination of each limb and selecting the most appropriate modified car controls. Those interested should apply to the Mobility Centre, Banstead Place, Banstead, Surrey.

BBC chief dismisses cable fear

By Kenneth Gosling

Fears that the advent of cable television will diminish some of his most pitiless attacks on modern society. A part of his last book *Duluth* was written here.

So far he has spared Italy. "I can just see," Italo Calvino, the Italian writer, said at the Ravella ceremony, "the forces of his marvellous imagination hurt themselves on the public and private image of Italian society like the women police in *Duluth* throwing themselves into the hunt for unfortunate illegal Mexican aliens and obliging them to perform salacious strip teases in pages of cruelty and richness of invention which can take their place in the tradition of black humour from Swift to today."

One might add that Mr Vidal would certainly have had some barbs ready sharpened if instead of Ravella some British city had thought of honouring him. At the moment the "furies" of his scathing imagination rise easily to express indignation at the way British critics have dealt with him and his latest books.

"This is all part," he says scornfully, "of Britain's drift away from the centre of things. It's nothing any more. It belongs nowhere. Going there is like going to Oslo."

As for the critics, he feels that *The Times Literary Supplement*

review of *Duluth* was a prepared attack on him and irrelevant as a comment on his book. "When the editor then had the nerve to ask me to review a book for them I said before putting down the telephone 'I would be obliged if you would never phone me again'."

Ravella is certainly nothing like Oslo, but that cannot altogether explain the immunity Italy enjoys from Vidal's scorn. Like anyone else he was deeply impressed with the beauty of Ravella from his first visit in 1948 when he and Tennessee Williams arrived in a Jeep - "not on a donkey like Wagner".

There is no reason why one should not see in the choice he made to live in Ravella a softer and gentler side of Vidal which is less obvious than the cutting edge more evident in him. Signor Calvino in his impressive analysis of the Vidal phenomenon spoke of the new way of living abroad which Mr Vidal has devised. He knows Italy well but his real importance for him is that he allows him a sufficient distance to see more clearly the problems of the United States which are his real passion.

Mr Vidal's example, however, might be infectious. Signor Calvino talked of Mr Vidal's attacks on the United States at a time when American society was sure of itself and of its own state of health. And that marked the difference between American society and a fragile Italy. No Italian has ever satirized Italian society so radically. Yet only when such a writer had appeared here could Italy be sure of having become a great power.

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Town planning today: 3 Case against ministers as judge and jury

The most damaging complaint about the planning system is that it fails to help those who need its protection most. That complaint has been made at three of the largest and most complicated planning inquiries held in Britain this year.

Opponents of the proposed Sizewell B nuclear power station on the Suffolk coast protested bitterly at the beginning of the year. They said that their slender

resources could never match those available to the Central Electricity Generating Board, which wanted to build the station. They felt that the system was loaded against them from the start, however fair and open the inquiry hearings might be as a debate. They feared that the inquiry could never be a contest of equals.

They had to raise money to cover the cost of making a detailed technical case against the station. Their finance came from jumble sales and their own pockets, while their opponents in the board could draw from an apparently bottomless public chest.

Opponents of the third London airport at Stansted in Essex were similarly aggrieved. They had to scrape together from private funds the cost of fighting the airport plan. Their opponents in the British Airports Authority, again using public funds, were able to field a large team of lawyers not only to plead for Stansted, but also to oppose the alternative expansion of Heathrow.

The arguments were not simply about finding the costs of long attendance at planning inquiries. They were about the ability of individuals who feel threatened by development to have a fair chance of fending it off. Large projects put forward by public authorities can affect the lives of thousands of people.

Some of those affected suspect that they have no chance, and that public inquiries are a sham designed to disguise the fact that serious decision-making takes place away from the public eye.

They fear that if somebody wants to build an airport or an oil terminal or an industrial estate or a motorway behind their homes, there is little that they can do about it.

Friends of the Earth has taken the suspicion a stage further in its opposition to the extension of the M40 for more than 40 miles from Oxford to the outskirts of Birmingham. It has boycotted the public inquiry into the motorway, claiming that the planning system offends against natural justice.

Ministers decide where they want to build a motorway. They then arrange for a public inquiry to be held before an independent inspector who makes a report in which he recommends whether the motorway should be built. The final decision rests entirely with the ministers who proposed the thing in the first place.

Some people no longer trust the planning system. In the last of three articles, HUGH CLAYTON, Environment Correspondent, outlines the suspicion that surrounds that system and explains its damaging effect.

The Friends of the Earth organization has taken its case against the British planning system to the European Court of Human Rights. It has not yet received an answer.

The other side of the argument about planning, often voiced in angry mutters by frustrated ministers and civil servants, is that all the talk of injustice is simply a form of filibustering.

Some of the supporters of the M40 extension predicted when it was proposed that opponents would try to spin out the inquiry in

Doors firmly closed on arms deal



The empty seat: An angry Soviet UN delegation leaves the seat intended for Mr. Andrei Gromyko, the Foreign Minister, unoccupied.

Russia condemns Reagan's 'blatant lies'

From Richard Owen, Moscow

Mr. Andrei Gromyko may not have been in the United Nations General Assembly to hear President Reagan urge Russia to "walk through the door" to an arms agreement on Monday, but Tass yesterday indicated the way in which the Soviet Foreign Minister would have declined the invitation.

It said the fact that the door was closed was the fault of the United States, and Mr. Reagan had made a speech full of "gross distortions, demagoguery, misinformation and blatant lies".

Tass also attacked Mrs. Margaret Thatcher, accusing her of pathological anti-communism and saying she had put the blame for the Geneva impasse "at the wrong door".

All in all, there was a lot of talk about doors in Moscow yesterday and very little hope that they might open on to a bright future.

of arms agreements and East-West concord.

Tass said Mr. Reagan had tried "to prove what cannot be proved, that his Administration's policy of whipping up tension and increasing preparations for war meets the lofty aims and principles of the United Nations Charter".

It said the American President had regretted the rise in tensions in regional "arenas of confrontation between the great powers", when in fact it was Washington itself which had "stoked the fires" of conflict from Lebanon to El Salvador.

Referring to Mr. Reagan's thesis that some non-aligned nations were in fact client states of the Soviet Union, Tass said it had clearly annoyed America that non-aligned states were pursuing policies not to Washington's liking.

Tass did not discuss in detail Mr. Reagan's new proposals at the Geneva talks on medium range

missiles, which have already been dismissed by the Kremlin as nothing new. It said the President had used his address to slander the Soviet Union by trying to blame Moscow for "the provocation involving a South Korean plane". His speech was an attempt to camouflage the "aggressive imperialist essence" of American foreign policy.

Mr. Gromyko, who should have attended the General Assembly session but withdrew when restrictions were placed on his Aeroflot flight to New York, spent the day receiving Mr. Boris Yeltsin, the Czechoslovak Foreign Minister. Soviet television showed shots of Mr. Gromyko trying - not very successfully - to look as if he would rather be talking to Mr. Chouvenet than taking centre stage at the United Nations.

President Andropov's contribution was an oblique one, as he been his style lately, and took the form of a message to the Afro-Asian Writers Association confer-

ence in Tashkent. He said the world situation was "extremely complicated and difficult" due to imperialism's preparations for war and the United States' "big stick" policy in Asia, Africa and Latin America. "There is now no greater task than the curbing of this senseless arms race," he said.

In an attack on Mrs. Thatcher's television interview, Tass said the Prime Minister was so blinded by anti-communism that she could not see it was NATO and not Russia which had launched the arms race. She had repeated "hackneyed" reasons for not including the British and French deterrents in the talks, and had been unable to refrain from "gross anti-Soviet insinuations" when discussing the airliner tragedy.

"Mrs. Thatcher urges the Soviet Union to apologize," Tass commented, "but her appeal has gone to the wrong address. It should have gone to the organizers of this provocation in Washington."

Diplomats said that Mr. Reagan's concessions on the arms

talks fell a long way short of Moscow's position.

Mr. Reagan said that if Russia agreed to missile reduction on a global basis, and included Soviet rockets in Asia, the United States would not necessarily match all Soviet missiles stationed in Europe. But Moscow has refused consistently to include its Asian missiles in the talks, and demands that no new missiles at all should be deployed by NATO in Europe.

Mr. Reagan's point that Pershing 2 missiles would be reduced as part of an agreement, as well as the slower cruise missile, is some comfort to Moscow, but not enough to allay Soviet fears of the Pershing's short flying time and target accuracy.

As for the suggestion that bombers should be counted as well as missile warheads, the Soviet Union does not agree with the United States over which nuclear-capable aircraft should be included.

Leading article, page 13

Falklands lobby launched by junta

From Zoriana Pyasiwsky, New York

Argentina is urging Britain's allies to persuade it to discontinue its "Fortress Falklands" policy, and has launched its campaign in the UN General Assembly this year to attain coveted European support for negotiations over the sovereignty of the islands.

Señor Juan Aguirre Larrauri, the Argentine Foreign Minister, said on Monday that the West should dissociate itself from Britain's "dangerous adventure". He cited the decision by Britain to establish what he called a strategic airbase in the Falklands as an escalation of its military expansionist policy in the South Atlantic.

It was clear, he said, that the base would be designed to allow Britain to extend its global strategic interests, and he gave warning of the dangers of transforming the South Atlantic into a new source of conflict between East and West.

He also accused Britain of favouring all attempts at peace-making, including its refusal to accept the mandate of the Secretary-General, Señor Javier Pérez de Cuellar, to renew negotiations between the two sides. Argentina is expected with its Latin allies to table a motion calling for the resumption of negotiations on the sovereignty of the islands later this year.

There is little doubt that Argentina will win a resounding majority in the assembly for its stand, but it was clear from Señor Aguirre's remarks that European support is the most prized. Last year a majority of the European Community voted in the vote on negotiations while the United States sided with Argentina.

In a right of reply, Mr. Nicholas Barrington, Britain's representative, said that the many and varied accusations made by Argentina were without foundation. He said that Argentina had attempted to airbrush out the fact that it had broken off from the negotiating process with the deliberate and unprovoked invasion of the islands last year.

Señor Aguirre discounted Britain's contention that Argentina's failure to declare a formal end of hostilities was the source of continued tension. He said his country's attitude was in full conformity with the provisions of the UN Charter relating to the peaceful settlement of disputes.

He noted that the fourteen and a half months that had elapsed since the cessation of fighting was confirmation of Argentina's good will and its compliance with international law.

Terror in Corsica

French crack down on nationalists

From Diana Geddes, Paris

Less than a week after the outlawed Corsican National Liberation Front claimed responsibility for the murder of the second most senior civil servant in northern Corsica, the Government has decided to crack down on the Corsican terrorist movement.

Announcing the decision to outlaw the federation after yesterday's Cabinet meeting, M. Max Gallo, the Government spokesman, said that numerous and close links had been established between the two organizations. The federation has been in the forefront of the nationalist campaign accusing the Government of responsibility for the alleged murder of M. Guy Orsoni. The nationalist militant, who disappeared three months ago and whose body has never been found.

In a statement to the press last Wednesday, the front said that it had "executed" M. Pierre-Jean Massimi, secretary-general of the Regional Council for North Corsica, and M. Félix Rosso, a restaurant owner, for their part in the alleged murder of M. Orsoni.

In particular, they accused M. Massimi of having been given 1m francs (£80,000) by M. Joseph Franceschi, the Minister of Public Security, in order to pay for hired hands to kill M. Orsoni. The handing over of the money is alleged to have taken place on June 18, the day after M. Orsoni's disappearance, when M. Franceschi was indeed seen on the island.

The Government has clearly begun to worry about the effects of these allegations on public opinion. On Sunday, after a meeting with local Corsican councillors in Paris, M. Gaston Defferre, Minister of the Interior, put out a statement "solemnly denying" such "absurd" rumours. "Can you really see a minister wandering round with a bag or

suitcase (full of money)," he asked.

M. Pierre Mauroy, the Prime Minister, has also denounced the front's attempts to whip up public opinion against a government minister.

The federation has organized several demonstrations on the island in support of the front's claims, and last Friday, Mme. Pascale Verdi, editor of the nationalist newspaper *U Rìbonu*, was charged with "spreading false information" about Government involvement in M. Orsoni's disappearance.

A week earlier, M. Jean-Louis Eyssartel, head of the local radio station, Radio Corsica, was also charged with spreading false



M. Franceschi: Accused by Corsican terrorists.

information after he had broadcast a report of a press conference last spring at which the nationalists claimed that two of their militants had been tortured by the police.

A spokesman for the Federation of Nationalist Councils denied that the Government had proof of "any organic relations" between it and "some clandestine movement".

Heavy turnover of MPs in Kenya election

From Charles Harrison, Nairobi

First results in Kenya's general election yesterday showed the expected heavy turnover of former MPs, with several ministers and assistant ministers losing their seats.

In many areas the poll was small - sometimes less than 25 per cent of the electorate - indicating that a high proportion of the 7.2 million registered voters either stayed at home or were barred from voting because of mistakes in the electoral rolls.

The only white candidate, Mr. Philip Leakey, was reported to

have scored a narrow victory over his main rival, the veteran politician Mr. Acheng Omondi, in the first count in the Langata constituency, a Nairobi suburb. But Mr. Omondi objected to the count, and lengthy discussion followed as to whether a full recount should be undertaken.

Several hours later it was officially announced that Mr. Leakey had retained his seat with a majority of more than 2,000 votes. After the announcement supporters of some of his opponents jostled white reporters.

Americans deny finding Korean jet black box

Tokyo (AP) - US naval vessels have located the flight data and voice recorders from the downed South Korean airliner, the Japan Broadcasting Corporation (NHK) said yesterday. American officials immediately denied it.

The NHK report, quoting government sources, came after a statement by the chief government spokesman and activity in northern Japan that set off a wave

of speculation that the Americans would soon recover the recorders. Japan's Kyodo news service carried a similar report, quoting Foreign Ministry sources.

The report was denied by Lieutenant Gary Shroul, spokesman for the US Navy in Japan. "As of this afternoon we have not found the black box. I'm not waffling on that one," The Foreign Ministry said they had no knowledge of the reports.

Policeman dies in Sind pre-poll riot

Islamabad (Reuters) - Tension mounted in Sind Province yesterday as three people died, a bomb exploded and police rounded up opposition leaders before tomorrow's controversial local elections, opposition sources said.

The sources said that three died and 13 were injured when a crowd of opposition supporters exchanged gunfire with police who were trying to inspect a polling station at Khanpur, northern Sind.

Police sources confirmed that

one policeman was killed while visiting the station. The opposition called for a boycott of the polls because political parties are banned from contesting them.

A bomb rocked a government building in Shikarpur, seven miles from Khanpur, the sources added. There were no immediate reports of casualties.

The opposition Movement for the Restoration of Democracy (MRD), which has kept up anti-government unrest in central Sind since August 14, said that the

military government has rounded up more than 350 people to keep them from disrupting the elections.

Police searched more than 50 houses on Monday night in the provincial capital of Karachi, the MRD acting secretary general, Mr. Iqbal Haider reported.

He said that there could be many more arrests in central Sind, where violent protests have resulted in the polls being delayed for three days in the worst-hit districts.

DO YOU HAVE AN OLD VEHICLE?

• If it has been off the road for some years you may need to take action before 30 November 1983.

• If you have a new-style computer-produced Registration Document (V5) for this vehicle you need not do anything. Otherwise, please read on.

WHAT IS IMPORTANT ABOUT 30 NOVEMBER?

After this date the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Centre cannot accept applications to record old vehicles under their original registration numbers. This means that you will lose the use of your number unless you act now.

WHAT MUST YOU DO?

Complete and send the coupon below to the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Centre to make sure that your claim to the number is considered. Any old documents (not photo-copies) for the vehicle, eg an old style 'log book', tax disc or MOT certificate, should be attached to the coupon below.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

If everything is in order you will not lose your number and DVLC will send you a new-style registration document.

WHAT IF YOU DON'T WRITE TO DVLC BEFORE 30 NOVEMBER?

You will lose your present registration number. You will still be able to record your vehicle at the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Centre but you will be given a different number.

To: DVLC, Longview Road, Swansea, SA6 7JL

Vehicle Registration Number _____ I also enclose:

Make of Vehicle _____ Old-style "Log Book" ☐

Name _____ Old Licence Disc ☐

Address _____ Old MOT Certificate ☐

Please tick relevant boxes

Do you wish these Documents to be returned? YES/NO

9/83

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT

Hongkong finance official hurries home from IMF

From Richard Hughes, Hongkong

As Hongkong's Financial Secretary, Sir John Bremridge, hurried back five days early from the IMF-World Bank conference in Washington, the Hongkong dollar welcomed him with a substantial recovery.

In confident mood, Sir John said that his presence in Hongkong "could be more important than sipping cocktails" in Washington.

He emphasized that the withholding tax on Hongkong dollar deposits would not be abolished and gave warning that "those people selling Hongkong dollars at this juncture are going to get their fingers badly burnt".

Meanwhile, Hongkong's Consumer Council has urged shoppers to stop panic buying, which would only aggravate profiteering. The Council has received complaints of increases of up to 50 per cent in sale prices for many market commodities. Australian rice - the most widely consumed in Hongkong - has been virtually sold out.

The Government has also had to withdraw three lots of Crown land from sale by public auction because not a single buyer was interested in the normal opening prices.

On the political front, Mr. John Walden, former Director of Home Affairs, blamed both the British and Chinese Governments for the collapse of the Hongkong dollar.

He said that the British and Chinese were treating Hongkong's five million people as "mute pawns" and did not care what damage they did to local living standards.

There is increasing certainty that colonial authoritarianism

government will be replaced by Communist authoritarian government, without any assurances that civil rights will be protected," he said.

However, there has been widespread satisfaction over the promotion of the retiring British Ambassador in Peking, Sir Peter Croft, to two high-level posts in the Foreign Office, with continuing responsibility for negotiations over the future of Hongkong.

"I only wish that on the Chinese side they had someone who is equally knowledgeable and who enjoys the same degree of cooperation among the Chinese

leaders," said a Hongkong commentator, Mr. T. L. Tsai.

An influential local group, the Hongkong Christian Industrial Committee, has expressed directly to Chinese and British authorities its concern over the collapse of the dollar and has warned Hongkong against "committing collective suicide".

Sir Percy Cradock, New appointment praised.

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East Berlin concession to children

Berlin (AP) - East Germany announced yesterday it has dropped currency exchange requirements for children visiting from the West and has eased rules on family reunification.

The West German Government called the East Berlin action inadequate. This summer Bonn approved DM1bn loan to East Germany to encourage easing of restrictions.

West Germany has repeatedly demanded abolition of the currency exchange law, saying it discourages Westerners from visiting East Germany. Visits have fallen sharply since East Berlin in 1980 doubled to DM25 the daily amount of Western currency that adult visitors must exchange. Children, aged between six and 14, had to exchange DM7.5 a day.

Aquino panel to resume

Manila (AFP) - The presidential panel investigating the assassination of Benigno Aquino, the murdered Philippine opposition leader, decided at a closed meeting to resume proceedings on October 10 with or without a Supreme Court ruling on an opposition challenge to its legality.

The commission will invite Filipino or foreigners, who claimed to have witnessed Mr. Aquino's killing at Manila airport on August 21 to testify before the commission, whose five members were appointed by President Marcos.

Queen's debut

Mbabane (Reuters) - The new Swazi Queen Regent Ntombi has received envoys of Mozambique, Tanzania and Zambia in her first public engagement since her disputed appointment last month.

Korean scandal

Seoul (Reuters) - Prosecutors said they were questioning several officials of a South Korean bank in connection with a \$100m swindle. The Seoul Bank said it had dismissed 11 of its officials.

Matterhorn toll

Zermatt (Reuters) - The number of people killed this year while climbing Switzerland's most famous peak, the Matterhorn, rose to a record 18 yesterday. A 36-year-old American was the latest victim.

Viper brood

Madrid (AFP) - A hoped gaboon viper has given birth to 70 offspring at the zoo here, about double the normal number for the species. Weighing in at little more than 2 oz each the snake brood was reported to be doing well.

Video sinks to new depths

Keen though we are to find more oil beneath the waves, we don't much enjoy plunging beneath them ourselves. Particularly in the North Sea, which is most unfriendly.

Frankly, we'd rather watch video.

And there's a British company called UDI (part of the John Brown Group) which is helping us do just that. Indeed, the help's been mutual. UDI technology owes much to Shell's encouragement.

Their sonar equipment builds a picture of the sea-bed by bouncing sound-waves off it; and then the cunning fellows convert the sounds into video numbers.

So you can see what the bottom of the sea sounds like. Mind blowing.

And who, apart from oilmen, would want to use such equipment?

You'd be surprised.

There's West Midlands County Council, for one. They've used UDI Sonar to delve into old, flooded underground limestone workings.

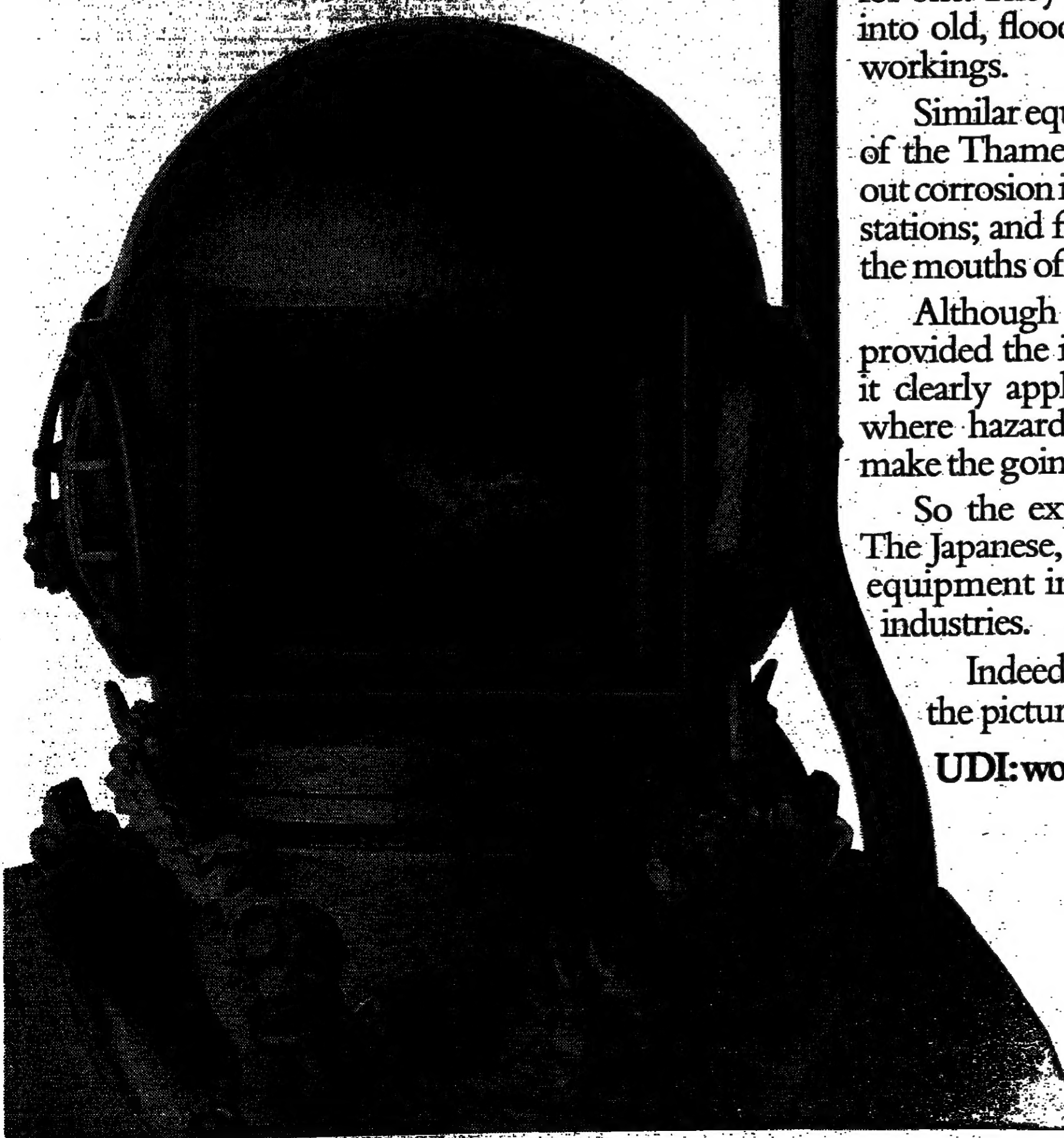
Similar equipment is helping surveyors of the Thames flood-barrier; and seeking out corrosion in the water-coolers of power stations; and finding underwater debris in the mouths of major ports.

Although our North Sea operations provided the impetus for this technology, it clearly applies anywhere in the world where hazardous underwater conditions make the going tough.

So the export orders are coming in. The Japanese, for instance, are using UDI equipment in their offshore oil and gas industries.

Indeed, you could say that for UDI the picture sounds rather rosy.

UDI: working well with Shell



Will they cry for Johnny Rotten?

Adapted from *The Style of the Century 1900-1980* by Bevis Hillier, published on October 20 by the Herbert Press, price £12.50.

Top: the cover of the first LP by the rock group *Roxy Music* flamboyant a return to glamour and fantasy, its lascivious image shut through with an irony soon to become all-pervasive.

Left: his death in New York while on bail for murder made Sid Vicious into a punk icon. Above right: the magazine *i-D* represents punk at its most sophisticated

Left: his death in New York while on bail for murder made Sid Vicious into a punk icon. Above right: the magazine *i-D* represents punk at its most sophisticated

Probably not; but perhaps there was something to be said for punk beyond the punks' own suggestion of a justified revenge on a society that had given them some short shrift. In their contribution I was asked to write for the Preston Polytechnic Seventies exhibition catalogue, I tried to say what that "something" was: "Many regard punk as an evil phenomenon, something which threatens the fragile basis of our society. It is a view which means that old ladies get beaten up on tube trains, who can dissent from this view? But in the decorative arts, I cannot help regarding it as something fresh and helpful. Before a new order comes into being, the old one must be destroyed, and punk is nothing if not destructive. I grew up in decades, and in a section of society (the middle-middle-class) where conformity reigned. When I walk along the King's Road, Chelsea, today and see that young people have had the sheer courage to turn themselves into walking works of art with pink and green hair and extraordinary trousers hobbled at the legs by stape, with weird tattoos on their hope for the stars. Good art can only begin with an act of bad taste - a shocking breach with the conformist past."

"Jan 20. There cometh one to propose a mad
planne, namely, that I do set downe a

DOWN: 2 Elder 3 Oil 4 Aberdeen Angus
5 NATO 6 Potluck 7 Spasm 10 Elms 12 Nea
14 Wolf 15 Six pack 16 Odds 17 Agony 20 Inti

Deco exhibition was staged at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts, Minne-

Malcolm Brown

The 1968 ICA show suggested the possibility of computer-aided design.

Dece Cameraman was staged at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts, Minnesota. Films such as *Bonnie and Clyde*

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ACROSS	DOWN
1 Quasi stellar radio source (6)	1 Witty saying (4)
4 Political revolt (6)	2 Religious recluse (3)
7 Restless desire (4)	3 Restate points (5)
8 Train passageway (8)	4 Peeler (5)
9 Riding breeches (8)	5 Taunt (4)
12 Loft ball (3)	6 Australian hen (5)
15 Harass (6)	10 Shelter (5)
16 Lots (6)	11 Firmly substantial (5)
17 Hive insect (3)	12 Beach sail boat (4,5)
19 In times lures (8)	13 Spooled toy (2,2)
24 Flirtisee's exponent (8)	14 Crusty sore (4)
25 Culminating point (4)	18 Fill with pride (5)
26 Superficial layer (6)	20 Grandiose (5)
27 Young cat (6)	21 Oversmart man (5)
	22 Brim (4)
	23 Not fat (4)

SOLUTION TO No 160
ACROSS: 1 Señora 5 Nape 8 Pedal 9 Entitled
 11 Serenade 13 Guam 15 Spadework 18 Docks
 19. Farflung 22 Staring 23 Not on 24 Okra
 25 Stools
DOWN: 2 Elder 3 Oil 4 Aberdeen Angus
 5 NATO 6 Potluck 7 Spasm 10 Elms 12 Neat
 14 Wolf 15 Six pack 16 Odds 17 Agony 20 Untidy
 21 Diva 23 NCO

How a Python shed his tortured skin

هكذا من الامم



**IF YOU'RE LATE
FOR THE OFFICE.**

**IF YOU'RE VERY LATE
FOR THE OFFICE.**

**WHO'S GOING
TO THE OFFICE?**

Admittedly the BMWs for the road will never be quite as fast as a BMW for the track. Which is not to say they're exactly slow. The 628CSi on the left, for example, is capable of 131 mph — aided by the same engine that brought victory to a BMW driver in last year's

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prefer the racing version. For those that don't the 635CSi offers a minor compensation: a surprisingly frugal 24.7 mpg overall. And how much do you pay for this rare combination of performance, economy and (let's be honest) sheer unashamed luxury?

£18,710 for the 628CSi. A cool £23,995 for the 635CSi. And sorry, but for those looking to buy the complete set, the racing car is not for sale.



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DOE FUEL CONSUMPTION FIGURES FOR THE 635CSi FOUR SPEED AUTOMATIC, URBAN: 19.1 MPG (14.8L/100KM), 56MPH; 41.5 MPG (6.8L/100KM), 75MPH; 32.5 MPG (8.7L/100KM). PERFORMANCE FIGURES SOURCE: MOTOR/MANUFACTURER. OVERALL FUEL CONSUMPTION FIGURES SOURCE: D. CARTER, MOTORING JOURNALIST. PRICES CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS. INCLUDE CAR TAX AND VAT BUT NOT DELIVERY OR NUMBER PLATES. INCLUSIVE DELIVERY CHARGE INCORPORATING BMW EMERGENCY SERVICE AND INITIAL SERVICES. £185 + VAT FOR A BMW 6 SERIES INFORMATION FILE. PLEASE WRITE TO: BMW INFORMATION SERVICE, PO BOX 46, HOUNSLOW, MIDDLESEX OR TELEPHONE 01-897 6665 (LITERATURE REQUESTS ONLY). FOR TAX FREE SALES: 56 PARK LANE, LONDON W1. TELEPHONE 01-629 9277.

THE TIMES DIARY

Growing pains

When the "Plant a Tree in '73" campaign was launched in an attempt to repair the ravages of Dutch elm disease, cynical nurserymen and landscape architects went around humming a subversive little rhyme: "Plant a tree in '73, plant some more in '74: how many alive in '75?" The answer in '83 is half at best, and a third at worst, of the 100 million trees planted annually, according to Cedric Lisney of the Landscape Institute.

At £1 a tree, the investment is staggering, as is the loss. Many have succumbed to drought, says Lisney, especially during the three very hot summers since Plant a Tree started. Trees in towns and cities tend to fare better because the local authorities look after them to some extent. The classic failures are "the well-meaning amity bods who go out to the country on a Saturday morning, pop them in with a silver spade, and then walk away".

Recent Forestry Commission figures suggest that as many as 10 per cent of all plants, in any case, are already desiccated and effectively doomed when they arrive on site. "What we are talking about in tree terms," says Lisney sagely, "is stress".

Doney's bouquet

An anonymous Swiss hopes to sell a bottle of South African wine for more than £300 at Sotheby's today. It is a Groet Constantia of 1793, bought in a sale of items from the library of the Duke of Northumberland at Alnwick about 10 years ago. The bottle is said to have got through a dozen bottles of the stuff a month in exile. The Great Constantia used to grace the tables of the Georgian households in this country, according to *Times* wine writer Jane MacQuitty. It is still "delectable" even at that advanced age, freshly in colour with "an amazingly strong grapey Muscat" note.

CBS has just announced a world premiere recording of Schubert's "45 Variations" of music, not all of it new. "Despite its brevity, the music evokes a strangely haunting atmosphere," CBS insists.

Running buffet

The story of the Sharrow Bay Hotel in Penryn in Cornwall seems to be rather fascinating, says the English tourist. Board: "From the raw ingredients of a bicycle, assorted kitchen cutlery and a red setter called Peggy, Francis Coulson has built up a superb standard of cuisine." Sounds yummy.



"Neville was so excited he almost woke up."

Where's the Rub?

The next issue of the *Spectator* is to carry a note on its letters page differentiating between Michael Rubenstein, whose letter in this week's issue deplores the "continuing failure" of all concerned in the *Literary Review's* publication of that article by Rolf Dahl "to recognize their lapse in judgment, still less show remorse about the offence it caused", and Michael Rubenstein, legal adviser to the *Literary Review*. Both Rubs - you know - are genuine; the note was requested by Rubenstein-with-an-i, and Alexander Chancellor, the editor, accepted. "The ramifications of this thing seem to be absolutely endless," rights Chancellor wearily. "What spirit of mischief might have prompted Rubenstein-with-an-e to write the letter is a matter for speculation."

Unthink tank

The peace-loving London Borough of Lewisham plans to dismantle a tank-shaped climbing frame in a playground in Folkestone Gardens, New Cross, in the hope that local juveniles will study war no more if they are given a more conventional structure to clamber upon. Counter-revolutionary Tories are muttering that it would cost less to convert the thing to a bulldozer shape, and in any case there is at least one Conservative borough prepared to buy the tank as it is.

The Duke of Edinburgh has written to Noboru Hamada, president of the Japan Maritime Machinery Development Association, requesting a briefing on Japanese techniques for lifting fuel costs by reintroducing the use of sail in modern shipping. Computer-assisted sails are already assisting the knots-per-gallon averages of coastal ore-carriers and tankers in the Far East. The Palace was not amused by suggestion that the royal yacht Britannia might be on the verge of sprouting such sails. Prince Philip's letter arises only from "a general interest" in such matters, it maintains. PHS

So easy to stop the Labour levy

by Michael Ivens

Public expressions of guilt by trade union officials are rare. It is no coincidence that they occur tomorrow, just as the TUC is to meet Mr Norman Tebbit to discuss the political levy. Trade union officials are almost excessively prepared to confess that they have been mishandling the levy.

Since 1947, union members in England, Scotland and Wales have had to opt out rather than opt in to a paying political levy to the Labour Party. Now Mr Tebbit is considering changing the law and he is examining acting against employers who deduct the political levy from unionists' pay packets. Trade union leaders are preparing a fresh approach to Mr Tebbit. "We have sinned in the past" will be the gambit. "We have not always been as efficient as we should in showing workers that they have a right to opt out. Give us a chance and we will improve. But don't legislate."

The present position of trade unionists on the political levy can be summed up by a survey carried out by National Opinion Polls for Aims of Industry. It showed that approximately 40 per cent of non-Labour voters pay the Labour levy - through ignorance, fear and apathy. Another 25 per cent don't know whether or not they pay it. A mere 24 per cent prefer the opt-out system.

Some trade unions, of course, are better than others in making it easy for their members to opt out. Mr Clive Jenkins' ASTMS allows 70 per cent to opt out - and deserves credit for it. But how do we account for the National Union of Dyers,

Bleachers and Textile Workers getting 100 per cent of contributors to the political fund in 1979?

Or in 1981 the TGWU achieving 98 per cent, the NUR 97 per cent and Aslef 94 per cent? As Labour got less than half of the trade union vote, it hardly comes from political conviction!

There is a strong case, then, for changing from opt-out to indicating positively your support for Labour by opting in. But Mr Tebbit would be mistaken if he thought that by changing the law in this way, he would stop the situation whereby non-Labour trade unionists find themselves being used as part of a block vote to elect Labour leaders and to create Labour policies.

These days many employers collect the union dues under so-called "sweetheart" agreements with unions. Very often the union will ask the employer to collect the political levy as well.

"But how do we know which employees have opted out?", will be the personnel officer's question. "Just collect the lot", is the common reply. And if the personnel man asks how the non-Labour supporters are to get their money back, the reply is often: "Just send them along to us."

How all this works in practice can be seen from the case of the brave Mr Jack Cleminson who, in year out, asked the Post Office and Engineering Union for the political levy which the Post Office had knocked off his wages. Mr

Cleminson also handed opt-out forms to his colleagues - and was threatened that he would lose his job by trade union representatives. Finally, after 12 years, Mr Cleminson took his case to the certification officer.

That gentleman produced a curious ruling. The union, he said, had to pay yearly in advance for the money deducted by the Post Office from Mr Cleminson's wages. Not surprisingly the ruling was overturned on appeal.

Trade unions and guilty employers sometimes argue that in these days of the computer, it is too expensive or difficult to take into account political levy exceptions. The opposite is the case. Computers are magnificently flexible and employers make all kinds of exceptions in pay, pensions, invoices, special rates and commissions.

Many company chairmen are ignorant of the fact that many of their employees are being forced to pay the levy - even though they have opted out. They look rather pink when they discover it.

The solution is simple. The law should make it illegal for employers to deduct the levy if trade unionists have stated they do not want to pay it. And Mr Tebbit should deal with the loophole in the 1913 Act which allows the levy to be collected from everyone if discrimination presents severe difficulties. That clause is used as an excuse by employers and trade unions and should be deleted.

The author is director of Aims of Industry.

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Two months after martial law's end, Roger Boyes assesses the army's new role

Poland's army: still no political retreat

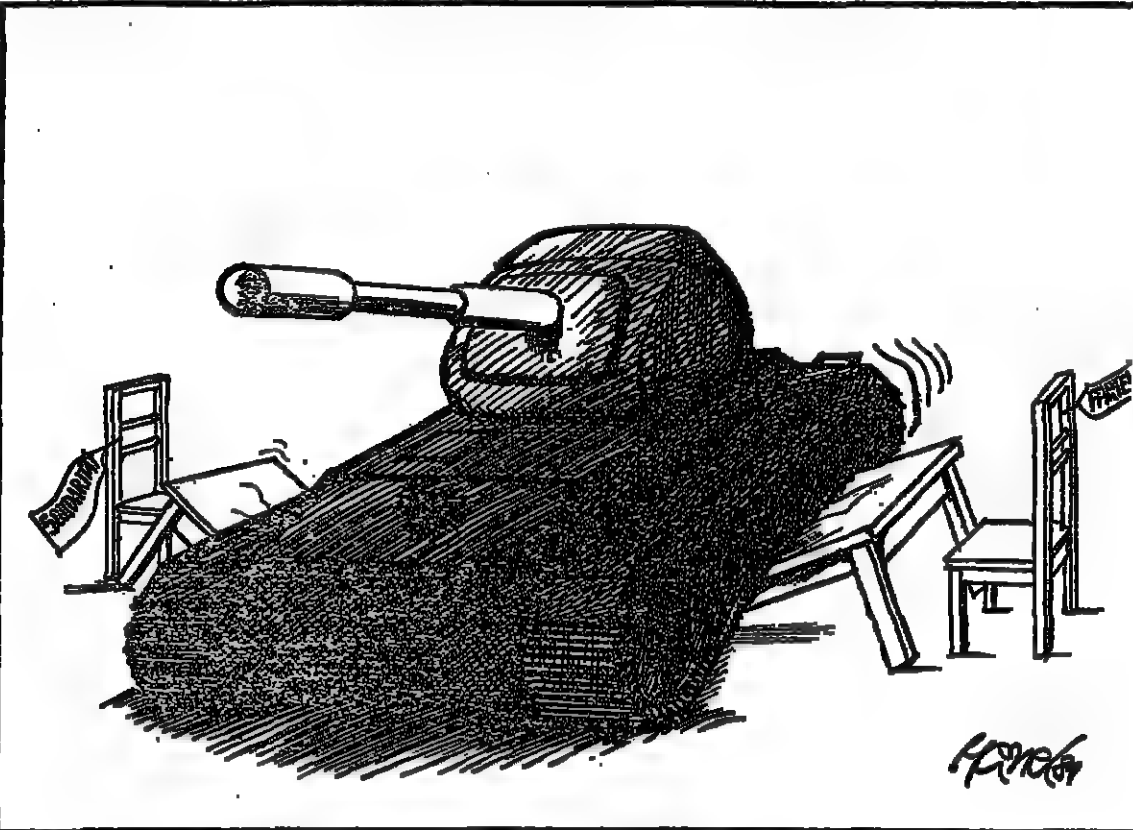
Warsaw In the gloom and muggy warmth of a Warsaw underpass, near the flower-sellers and the wizened women offering strings of garlic, an accordion-wielding ex-soldier plays day in, day out an old partisan lament: "The willows weep, the girl friend cries, her eyes wet with tears when she sees the hard, hard fate of the soldier." The zloty notes accumulate in his old cloth cap, for the popular sentiment is strong. Even after 19 months of less-than-pleasant martial law, soldiers are an object of respect.

Very soon, probably in a matter of weeks, General Jaruzelski, the country's leader, is expected to resign as Minister of Defence, a post he has held for 15 years, thus yielding his direct control of an institution that evokes simple patriotic emotions but complex political thoughts. The declaration of martial law in December 1981, the creation of a ruling military council, the soldiers on the streets, these seemed at the time like the trappings of a *coup d'état*, a seizure of power. In fact, it rapidly emerged that the army was being used as a mechanism of change from one discredited governing team to another that had at least the authority to carry out its decisions.

Thousands of party apparatchiks were dislodged. The role of the army was to control the pace of change so that it would not seem threatening, to ensure that the direction of those changes did not undermine the Communist Party even further and to lend authority - without physically participating - to the efforts of the internal security forces in stamping out the Solidarity opposition. For the army to have achieved these unpopular tasks without forfeiting popularity showed great political skill.

But now two months have gone by since the lifting of martial law and it is becoming clear that the army is not just an instrument of transition. It has fulfilled its national task, but not its party political one. Although General Jaruzelski declared that the army would now withdraw to the "second line", senior officers are well entrenched in the party and the state administrations.

This raises some important questions about the significance of armies in communist societies, when does an army's professional commitment to national security



Dialogue ended

reproduced from the *Kölnischer Stadtanzeiger*

become a commitment to national "salvation"? When is it legitimate for an army to intervene politically - and when should this intervention end? Does the army have a responsibility to reform or to preserve the status quo?

In the Soviet Union, where the authority of the party and its institution goes unquestioned (the questioners are in jail), the support of the army is needed to carry off a change in leadership, but its own political involvement is limited; rather, it is a lobby whose loyalty has to be bought. But in countries where the authority of the party has been eroded and the machinery of change has grown rusty - in Ceausescu's Romania for example - the army may have a key role to play.

In Poland, the army has always had a national mission. It is the guardian of the frontiers and it serves, when it is functioning correctly, as a school for patriotism. On army initiative, monuments have been erected to pre-war, pre-communist generals; the military four-cornered hat, the traditional headwear of Polish armies, has been reintroduced for ceremonial occasions. These are the symbols which bind army with nation.

But the army also has a mission to the Communist Party. This creates a dilemma for thinking generals: what if the Party is not serving the nation effectively? Should the army stand idly by? Martial law showed that the generals are willing to gamble much to reconcile their two personas. The army is not something separate from the Communist Party. Most officers above the rank of captain are Party members. The head of military training, General Tadeusz Puzcinski, recently remarked: "Every soldier should be a Marxist - and

now every soldier should be an economic and social activist - former commissars should maintain permanent contact at offices or factories where they have worked".

This then is the new military role in Poland: the soldier is a political activist, for only the army can boast the monolithic party structure that should (in the ideal Marxist world) be the case throughout Polish political society. That means that the army believes that its job is to regenerate socialism in Poland by restoring effective government.

Sitting at their desks, unfurled by the ending of martial law, three generals hold down crucial ministerial posts - the Interior Ministry (Czeslaw Kiszczak), Local Administration (Wlodzimierz Oliva) and Mining (Czeslaw Piotrowski). Several generals are also deputy ministers, including the deputy minister of education. The head of the anti-corruption unit is General Tadeusz Hupalowksi. Army officers serve as provincial governors in three Baltic ports (including Gdansk), in Silesia (Katowice), in central Poland (in four towns), as mayor of Warsaw, as first party secretary of Poznan, as chairmen of local people's councils in several cities.

And, perhaps even most important, the army controls two of the most decisive sections of the Communist Party central committee - the personnel department and international relations. About 15 per cent of the party administration is believed to be run by officers.

None of this means that the army has ousted the party; rather, one of the most active and trustworthy parts of the party has taken up a stronger leadership role. Army

participation in the Party may not make communism more popular but it should make it more effective.

The problems are large, but they lurk like icebergs, scarcely visible on the surface. First, the army by politicizing itself is risking not only an ultimate loss of prestige but also the reproduction of party factionalism that plagues the party at large. It is only natural that the general running the administration of a central Polish town will disagree with the general who is running Gdansk when it comes to the allocation of scarce funds. It is only natural that, confronted with political realities, some officers will become enamoured of reform while others will be convinced of its hopelessness. These differences are not fatal, but they will undermine the political homogeneity that allowed the army to declare martial law in the first place.

Second, the church is resisting the idea that the army should become a kind of Marxist finishing school and has instructed priests to strengthen their links with conscripts. Finally, the pull of the Polish Army's old mission - to defend the country against outside attack - will become stronger, especially if the West stations new missiles in Europe.

The emphasis on defence may well lead to a redefinition of the army's political role. The officers involved in running the country at the moment are mainly from a political background - invariably Soviet-trained at staff college level - and are not really needed back at the barracks. But if the Warsaw Pact is to make credible its threat to reply to new US missiles with appropriate military measures, then it must demonstrate that its warriors are not entirely desk-bound.

Conner, alone with America's sunken pride

Newport, Rhode Island Around here it is rather as if Everest had been bought by a Japanese camera company. The belated public sportsmanship being exhibited by the sleek, socially exclusive New York Yacht Club, as it handed over for the first time in 132 years the coveted America's Cup to ecstatic Australians at a Bellevue Avenue mansion, was in severe contrast to its private, even resentful, anguish.

When Australia II, with its remarkable fin-keel by an untutored designer, Ben Lexcen, came from a minute behind over the final two legs of the seventh and decisive race to win by 41 seconds, the men in peaked caps, blue blazers and white skulls lining the deck of the black-hulled committee boat Black Night knew they were watching the most treasured haul in the sporting world vanish before their eyes. Their *raison d'être* had vanished.

As Alan Bond's wildly rejoicing crew sailed past, the Black Knight gun which had signalled the finish of the race then fired a four-salvo salute while the members doffed their hats and bowed in acknowledgement to a beautiful, innovative boat and the crew which so nearly failed her. Their fists were no doubt clenched at losing a lead of three races to one, never mind that an unbelievable switch on the fifth leg, when Dennis Conner's 57-second advantage evaporated in a mistaken downwind course.

When Conner, the 1980 champion in Freedom against Bond's third boat, Australia I, achieved that 3-1 lead, the crackling shortwave radios out on Rhode Island Sound picked up the talk between NYCC Commodores Robert Stone and Bob McCulloch, and their helmsman.

"You sailed a terrific race," said the men from the club. "Thank you, sir," replied Conner stiffly that day. Conner the unbeatable, who was in a seemingly impregnable position against the boat he knew was faster, but whose crew could not collectively match his vast professional experience. Yet on Monday night, when what the NYCC members had believed to be impossible had actually happened, it was Conner who had to shoulder the burden of America's loss.

As Australia II came late into harbour against the faint remains of a crimson evening sky, the night was a blur of fireworks and rockets and blinking helicopters. The dockside groaning under the weight of thousands of spectators whom Newport may never see again. Television lights flooded the quay, the US syndicate boats Liberty and Freedom formed a guard of honour, for Australia II.

There on her towed launch, Black Swan, was the red-jacketed Conner, with a fixed, empty good loser's smile gazing up at the myriad of frenzied Australian faces. How different it had been a few hours before as the tanned Conner, looking

like Al Jolson with his sun-creamed white hair had confidently jockeyed his burgundy-coloured boat in the pre-start manoeuvres.

Now it was Conner, unaccompanied by any member of the NYCC, who walked alone through the car park, through the milling streets of hard-luck cries to the Armory, where he faced the press, knowing he had blown a winning position.

"I'd like to stay for an hour of questions," he said when paying tribute to Australia II. But when a mass of camera, television and press men is witnessing a man with tears swelling his eyes as he says the United States has no cause to be ashamed of their performance, they do not press him with questions. They just let him put on his straw hat, accept a thin cheer, and disappear back into the bedlam outside.

The NYCC might have supported the man who surrendered his heritage, but seemingly did not have the guts. It was left to syndicate chairman Ed de Moulins to appear later and say Conner was still the best helmsman. But the truth was he just did not have the best boat, and after months of relentless pressure, the man who never allowed a mistake had made a monumental one.

Back in New York, where the club was formed in 1844, and settled into its present mansion in 1901, those members not in Newport had been listening to a radio commentary in

the bar with its red leather chairs and portraits of boats and skippers of long ago. The club has no television: it is that kind of club. No one knows what they thought as Liberty's lead disappeared by the start of the final leg.

Richard Thursby, a NYCC member, has said: "There won't be more than a couple of days' mourning before we start thinking about how to win the damned thing back." But now it is free to any club and syndicate in the US, never mind the rest of the world, to bid independently. The exclusiveness which the NYCC enjoyed for so long finally turned against it. Never was a US 12-metre permitted to compete against a foreign boat outside the America's Cup, so they never knew, for example, what all the six foreign challengers learnt: that Australia II's tall, slim rudder was also part of her tacking ability, and they copied it.

When Conner finally got into the water against Lexcen's Lightning, as it is known, he was raw to the exceptional qualities which Victory '83 and the others had long since discovered. Ultimately, by the narrowest of all for all that colossal margin, the man who gave every command on his boat, made the singular error which neutralized the earlier ones by Bertrand. It was the right result.

David Miller

Jock Bruce-Gardyne

Here's health, the French way

Eighteen months ago I had to go into hospital for a minor operation. First I was inspected by a consultant who discussed the nature of my responsibilities at the Treasury and then handed me over to two young housemen. One examined me; the other took notes. Eventually the consultant returned, listened gravely, and confirmed that the operation was required.

I went into hospital - as an NHS patient, I should add - for three days. The treatment was excellent, and entirely successful. My room was swept and garnished about half a dozen times a day, and at any time of the day, there seemed to be a squad of half a dozen nurses sitting around with nothing very obvious to do.

So I find it difficult to swallow the reports of the desecration being perpetrated on the NHS by flint-hearted Norman Fowler.

Certainly cuts such as the closure of 20 per cent of the beds of the Department of Paediatrics at Guy's should be avoided, but such issues skirt the problem of over-manning in the Health Service. Between 1979 and 1982, the DHSS recently told us, the number of doctors and dentists on its payroll rose by more than 2,000, or 6 per cent. The number of nurses and midwives rose by 40,000, almost 11 per cent. "Administrative and clerical staff" increased by almost 6,000 and "professional and technical" by 7,000 - all of 12 per cent.

In total, the NHS payroll grew by 55,000. Yet hospital waiting lists have not noticeably shortened, nor has there been any noticeable increase in the number of patients treated. Is it really the case that 8,000 out of a total of 800,000 - just one for every extra seven recruited between 1979 and 1982 - cannot be found who are surplus to requirements?

It is true that an aging population and a longer life expectancy make

extra demands on the NHS. It is also true that more people are needed, from GPs to cleaners, to provide the same level of service as the hours of work have shrunk. But to accuse a government which has doubled cash expenditure on health care and consciously increased the proportion of the nation's product going to the NHS of a "conspiracy" to force

people to use private medicine is to

debate the English language. On the other hand, I can see nothing remotely improper about the contemplation and discussion of long-term changes in the way we pay for health. If the NHS ever was "the envy of the world" - which I doubt - it certainly isn't now. We should not be inhibited from learning from the experience of our neighbours.

I have never been convinced by the arguments of those who would have us follow the US example and rely on private medical insurance with a safety-net. The evidence of the capacity of the medical and legal professions to rip off such a system is really too impressive to be dismissed. Only last week an American acquaintance who could not remotely be accused of enthusiasm for "socialized medicine" told me of a friend who had received a \$300,000 bill for the treatment of his wife, who had just died of cancer. Allow a multiple of five for public exaggeration and the cost would still be defensible.

But the American system is not the only alternative. In France, health care is financed from compulsory insurance and topped up from taxes, much as it is in Britain. But with a crucial difference.

Instead of the service being either free at point of use, or subject to charges (for prescriptions, dental care, etc.) unrelated to costs, as it is on this side of the Channel, the user is billed and has to pay and subsequently reclaim.

There are plenty of pitfalls: administrative costs are higher, since the sheep who can be expected to meet the initial charge until they can reclaim it have to be sorted from the goats who cannot. But the introduction of a comprehensive cash nexus induces both a consciousness of cost and a propensity to shop around for best value - something which is almost wholly absent from our system.

At any rate, we should not be browbeaten into assuming that all the NHS needs is more cash. Still less should we treat pressures for marginal economies in manpower as evidence of a betrayal of commitments to the NHS.

The author was Economic Secretary to the Treasury in Mrs Thatcher's last government.

James Curran

Puppet state and a Westminster MP

Sir Peter Emery, MP for Honiton, who was knighted for distinguished political services last year, has pursued a career not entirely free of controversy. He was in effect rapped over the knuckles by the House of Commons Public Accounts Committee in 1980 for being a director of a company that made an excessive profit from managing the publicly funded Underwater Training Centre in Scotland. But Sir Peter Emery vehemently denies the allegation that his company made too much money out of the taxpayer (even after the committee reinvestigated the matter at his request and again found against him).

There is nothing particularly unusual in MPs having business interests and nothing particularly unusual about work in public relations. Many MPs relate, promote, advertise and oil wheels. But Sir Peter Emery's latest form of political entrepreneurship requires examination. His company, Shenley Trust Services, is acting as a public relations agency for Bophuthatswana, a so-called independent black state in South Africa. Sir Peter has himself been introducing people from Bophuthatswana to influential politicians and diplomats. Bophuthatswana House, the country's official residence which opened with a great fanfare last year in Holland Park, is owned by a company with a registered address at Sir Peter Emery's Saville Street offices.

At first sight, Bophuthatswana would seem a laudable as well as a profitable cause to promote. Its record on human rights, unlike that of the other Bantustans, is good. Its government was democratically elected, albeit on a registered franchise of about 270,000 in a country that is officially the homeland of 2,700,000 people. Its 102-seat national assembly has only a minority of seats reserved for nominated chiefs.

But Bophuthatswana, like the other Bantustans, is the means by which the South African government legitimizes white domination. The African majority is denied political, property and full residential rights on the grounds that it belongs to Bantustans, even though many have never set foot in them. By this simple legal fiction, blacks accounting for 73 per cent of the population are excluded from ownership of 86 per cent of the land in South Africa, incorporating virtually all parts of the country which have mineral resources, good farming land or expensive economic activity. Black Africans are also denied the right to vote in elections for the South African government or even to belong to a political party which has white members, since their political aspirations should be confined officially to their black "homelands".

Yet the Bantustans are transparently bogus even as would-be independent states. Bophuthatswana, for instance, is not even a single territorial enclave within South Africa, but consists of seven parcels of land, separated in some cases by hundreds of miles. Its government is financially and militarily dependent

on Pretoria, and 55 per cent of its labour force works in what are officially white areas.

Like other homelands, Bophuthatswana is an impoverished reservation, providing cheap labour for white-controlled industry and a dumping ground for the very young, aged and sick who are not wanted in "white" South Africa. Its very existence, with that of the other Bantustans, constitutes a covert form of social control. About four million black workers, with migrant status in South Africa, are under constant threat of being forcibly repatriated to their "homelands" if they tangle with the authorities or with employers.

The Bantustans are also a crucial part of the South African government's future programme for gaining international acceptance. The intention is to create 10 independent black states which will eventually enter into a confederation with "white" South Africa in what Prime Minister P. W. Botha calls an "association of free states". Racist segregation in one society that appears offensive to the outside world will, it is hoped, seem more palatable in the form of a pluralist development of separate nations and by enlisting black elite in running the Bantustans, the South

Yet a solid block of Tory party opinion implacably opposes apartheid

African government hopes to ensure that resistance to white domination will develop in the form of a struggle between blacks.

But the development of pseudo-independent Bantustans represents only a face-lift to a system of exploitation based on racist eugenic theories. Most of the resources of a mineral-rich country will continue to be appropriated by a white minority through the use of making the majority aliens in their own land. This is why Britain, the EEC, and the entire civilized world have refused to recognize any of the four Bantustans so far declared to be independent states.

But if South Africa is to achieve a diplomatic breakthrough in the future, Britain is the one country in which the process could begin. Britain has the most right wing government in the EEC in terms of its international policy. Bophuthatswana, led by a decent "Uncle Tom" figure, Chief Mangope, is the best run and most creditable of the Bantustans. And Sir Peter Emery, identified with the liberal centre of the Conservative Party, is a good choice for lubricating a change of policy.

Nevertheless, there is a solid block of opinion in the Conservative Party which is implacably opposed to apartheid in South Africa. This one hopes, will be sufficient to stop in its tracks South Africa's latest diplomatic initiative and discourage Sir Peter from promoting it.

The author is editor of *New Socialist*.



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THE REAGAN OFFER

Should President Reagan be rude to the Russians if he is genuinely seeking an agreement on arms control? In his address to the United Nations General Assembly on Monday he made important concessions in an effort to break the stalemate at the Geneva talks on Intermediate Nuclear Forces (INF), but also questioned Soviet good faith and criticized the record of the USSR in international affairs. The initial response from Moscow does not augur well for progress at Geneva; Tass counterattacked by accusing Mr Reagan of using "gross distortions" of generally known facts, demagoguery, disinformation, and blatant lies.

Yet the balance of his speech was about right. The proposals on arms control were revealed to Soviet negotiators at Geneva the previous week, rather than first announced on a public occasion for maximum propaganda advantage, as had been President Andropov's practice. The criticisms of the USSR were relatively muted, and were certainly just. Unlike the Soviet leader, President Reagan has to take account of public opinion in the Nato democracies, and explain why it is so difficult to achieve arms limitations clearly of benefit to the whole world.

President Reagan has made three proposals which go some way to meeting Soviet demands at the INF talks. First, the US would not seek to match in western Europe the total number of warheads deployed by the USSR in its European and Asian territories, but would maintain equal numbers on a global basis,

thus achieving a balance at a level lower than the numbers of land-based weapons of intermediate range now possessed by the USSR.

This would mean that Moscow would reduce the warheads targeted on western Europe while fewer US weapons would be required when deployment of cruise and Pershing II missiles begins in December.

Mr Caspar Weinberger, has the opportunity during his visit to China to explain the thinking behind the new proposals to his hosts who, faced with 108 of the triple warhead SS20 missiles across their northern border, clearly prefer the destruction of the Soviet weapons envisaged in President Reagan's initial "zero option". For China and Japan, an arms limitation which leaves these Soviet weapons on site in Asia cannot be satisfactory, and since they are highly mobile and could be redeployed to threaten Western Europe, it is certainly vital that Washington retains the right to deploy "elsewhere" the missiles within the global balance not deployed in Europe.

The second concession - agreeing to include medium range bomber forces - will greatly complicate the work of the INF negotiators, but has long been demanded by Moscow which claims that when aircraft are included a balance already exists without the cruise and Pershing II missiles. This is based on a distortion of the figures, however, which brings in British and French deterrents and even includes aircraft stationed in the USA with shorter range than Soviet bombers

excluded from Moscow's calculations. Counting all medium range weapons and aircraft, the Warsaw Pact forces actually have four times the Nato figures.

The third proposal should certainly be welcomed by Moscow, since it allows for the reduction of Pershing II numbers to preserve the one-to-five ratio with cruise missiles should an agreement to lower the overall balance be achieved. The faster Pershings are regarded by USSR as the greater threat, taking only eight minutes from their West German bases to reach targets in the USSR.

There is enough evidence of flexibility and compromise in these proposals to encourage a more constructive Soviet stance at Geneva. But President Reagan correctly emphasized the necessity of effective verification and pointed out the need for the USSR to improve its very suspect record in observing the international agreements already negotiated such as the Helsinki Final Act, the Convention on Biological Weapons, and earlier arms limitation treaties. He was not being rude to the Russians in saying that the tragedy of the Korean airliner showed how different is the Kremlin's attitude to truth and international cooperation. This is an unfortunate fact of life which the western public must bear in mind when demanding progress at Geneva. President Reagan's proposals, together with the imminent deployment of cruise and Pershing II missiles, place the onus firmly on the Soviet leaders to show a similar willingness to reach agreement.

NOT YET A RESIGNING MATTER

The twenty-one republican prisoners still at large from the break-out at the Maze prison on Sunday will not, even if they remain at liberty, have the same operational value for the Provisional IRA as they had before they were arrested, convicted and imprisoned. That value, denominated in murders and explosions, was very high in the case of some of them. But they are now marked down by the police forces of both parts of Ireland. If they show themselves they risk recapture. They are too hot a property for most missions. Their escape may not do much directly to reinforce the IRA's ability to sustain the commission of crimes that it calls war.

However that may be, there is no mistaking the political significance of the escape. It was one of those deeds of daring that are the very stuff of the Irish republican tradition of armed resistance. The Provos triumphantly cry "Colditz", and they must be allowed the comparison. It is the perfect propaganda antidote to the procession of informers that have shaken the organization's morale. It is deeply disheartening to the security forces in Northern Ireland, especially the units which laboured to bring these men to justice in the first place. It does not leave unscathed those who carry political responsibility in the province.

From the point of view of authority the misadventure is so gross and notorious as to bring up the question of political resignation, the demand for which has been heard both in

Ulster and in Britain. The stable door is locked, and the necessary inquiry into how it came to be opened has been set in motion at the appropriate level. A "sub-judice" interlude supervenes. Is that enough to be going on with?

Political resignations, the kind in which the victim jumps and is not just pushed, can serve a useful purpose. Sometimes, as in the case of Lord Carrington and his colleagues at the Foreign Office, the purpose is ritual expiation; to make amends for the government's collective fault; to draw a line of some sort under the past in order to enable the government better to tackle the urgency of the present. Sometimes, as in the case of Sir Thomas Dugdale and Crichton Down, the purpose is more personal: resignation is the signal that the minister assumes responsibility for the misdeeds of his officials, even if they are of a kind for which personal supervision would not be expected of him; it is a signal that the ranks of politicians contain honourable men.

This is not the occasion for a Carrington type of resignation. The Government's general ability to manage the affairs of Northern Ireland is not seriously impaired by the incident (and if the Provos were handed the political scalp of a Secretary of State they would have even more to crow about). Moreover the setback occurs in the field of internal security, where there has been steady and marked improvement under the present administration in Northern Ireland. This is not the culmi-

nation of a record of failure, but a sudden and spectacular reverse in an area where things were going fairly well.

The time for a Dugdale type of resignation will come, if at all, when Sir James Hennessy has made his report. It may then be possible to see how far the disaster was due to the negligence or criminality of individuals, and how far to errors of policy or laxity in their execution. In measuring the obligations of political honour against those of conscience it will be fair to remember that we are not talking about Whitehall in conditions of external peace and civil harmony. The inveterate and bloodstained enemies of the state who are active in Northern Ireland have the power to inflict occasional spectacular coups de main in the face even of vigilance.

The name of Mr Nicholas Scott, the junior minister with responsibility for prisons, is the one to which a call for resignation is being pinned, not solely for reasons that have to do with security in Northern Ireland. If this were a resigning matter - and it is our view that it is not, subject to the finding of the inquiry - it would implicate the Secretary of State and not simply one of his parliamentary under-secretaries. The political administration at Stormont is compact. Security policy is at the heart of it, and the Maze is near the heart of security policy. Responsibility goes right to the top.

SAILING, SAILING

Much of the fascination of the America's Cup has derived from the stubborn brilliance with which the Americans defended it for 132 years. The desire to be the first to break the spell brought rich men, superb yachts and the world's best helmsmen to Newport time after time. One by one they lost, and each time they did so the fascination grew.

Now the Australians have won at last, after many attempts, and the spell is broken. Skilled sailors though they are, they won primarily on the drawing board and in the Dutch testing tank, for they had a markedly faster boat. The Americans, who probably had the edge as sailors, were out-designed rather than out-sailed, and they nearly won the last race.

The Australians' secret lay not just in the mysterious winged keel but in the whole design around it which enabled them to make a light boat without loss of stability. Their victory is no less praiseworthy for that. The complex formula of the twelve-metre class challenges the designer as much as the helmsman. The Australians took up the challenge and simply did a better job than anyone else. They well deserve their victory; the Americans were somewhat ill-mannered to object as vociferously as they did. As for the British, sadness that their magnificent effort was not quite

sufficient should not stifle praise for the Australians.

Of the Americans' behaviour it can perhaps be said in mitigation that as a nation they would not be where they are in the world today if they did not attach so much importance to winning. But this will make the loss even harder for them. In the way that symbolism sometimes becomes attached to matters of only marginal relevance, Americans may see the loss of the cup as further confirmation of their fears that they are losing their ability to hold the outer frontiers of technological innovation. Some may even see it as part of a wider loss of predominance.

Doubtless the Americans will fight back. They will fight on the computers and the drawing boards. They will fight in the testing tanks and finally on the water. But will other nations fight too? Will the magic hold? Obviously it will be somewhat reduced. No one can equal the Australians' feat unless the cup is held in Perth for another 132 years. Yet something will surely survive.

The America's Cup is rightly regarded as the Everest of yachting, a unique event in the rarified upper atmosphere of sailing. The boats are magnificent thoroughbreds of astonishing beauty, almost archetypal yachts, so finely constructed for

one purpose that they are virtually useless for anything else unless extensively modified. The races themselves are strange, lonely elegant duels between two yachts only, far out to sea, as distant from the multiple skirmishing of most yacht racing as a modern lightweight ascent of Everest from a crowded athletics meeting.

And the sport is very much in tune with the age. It involves modern technology, yet it produces no pollution and little noise (the spectator fleet is another matter, of course). It does no damage. It requires no mastery of nature but subtle and sensitive exploration of how to extract the most power from wind and water. The best helmsmen are those who can find and hold that thin line of balance along which the elements seem to join in driving the boat forward. The America's Cup will continue to represent one of the highest tests of their skill.

Obviously there are hundreds of socially more useful ways of spending money, but once applied utilitarian criteria to the pursuit of dreams and there is no stopping. Sailing is no more useless than football or ballet, and pound for pound it may well create as many jobs and as much happiness. So may the pursuit of the America's Cup continue, the magic survive, and the next round be friendlier.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Raising revenues of debtor countries

From Sir William Lithgow

Sir, Understanding the world banking crisis requires a little reflection. In 1974, after adjustment for inflation, the average cost of sovereign dollar borrowing was about -64 per cent, by 1982 +134 per cent, a crude difference of 20 per cent. Nine years ago surplus oil revenues were flooding the money markets of industrialised countries committed to paying their oil suppliers more, but unwilling to pay their voters less. By last year, however, the Opec countries had become net borrowers.

Today the United States, rather than raising adequate taxes, emulates the example of the countries which borrowed so heavily and many United States banks have been left extraordinarily exposed.

Viability of a country or a project could be achieved a few years ago, at the expense of widows, orphans and sheiks, through the mechanism of inflation alone, which increased dollar revenues at a greater rate than borrowing costs. With interest rates near historic record levels, it is today as unrealistic to suppose that the real

revenues of debtor countries can be increased by up to 20 per cent without further investment in the middle of a world recession as to assume that oil producers' revenues could be recycled without risk nine years ago.

Sound money and sound economics cannot be achieved by arbitrary actions. It is little wonder that the United Kingdom has a deficit on trade in manufactures when this new phase of money madness is closing the markets of developing countries.

New initiatives are urgently required from this side of the Atlantic, from the United Kingdom as a banking and industrial nation. It is in the interests of all that we get our act together and overcome organisational problems that have left the world with too many idle hands and minds and too much poverty.

Yours faithfully,
WILLIAM LITHGOW,
P.O. Box 2,
Port Glasgow,
Renfrewshire,
September 26.

Rates reform

From the Chief Executive of Swale Borough Council

Sir, The Government invites views on its White Paper on rates. May I, from the inside, add to the admirable comments of your leading article of September 16 and hope to dispel a number of deeply seated misconceptions?

The White Paper starts from the mischievous and misleading premise that "the Government cannot ignore the deep and widespread sense of grievance felt by ratepayers". Having itself failed to reform the rating system the Government then orchestrated a campaign against those who have to operate the present outdated system with the intention of undermining public confidence in local government so as to pick it off like a ripe plum.

The Government claims credit for seeking "to reverse the growth in current expenditure" by "increasing the accountability of local authorities". Accountability is measured locally in votes and expenditure in "needs". Local government does not require a service on that. We provide vastly more information on our functions than does central government. It is they, not we, who

so frequently shelter behind the phrase "not in the public interest". All Cabinet papers are secret; all ours are open. Open government? Accountability? I ask you!

The Government go on to claim they "were fully prepared to propose to Parliament the abolition of domestic rates if consultation had revealed broad-based support...". Humbug! If we have to wait for a consensus on such an important matter we are entitled to ask "Where has leadership gone?"

And what about industrial rates anyway? Local income tax would be an entirely viable alternative to rates, needing only a computer and a programme for its introduction. Doesn't the Government have any computers? We do.

The White Paper simply will not do. It is the Government's job democratically to reform the 200-year-old rating system. It is not their job automatically to substitute their judgement for that of locally elected councillors.

Yours faithfully,
HARRY WHITE, Chief Executive,
Swale Borough Council,
Council Office,
Central Avenue,
Birmingham,
Kent,
September 21.

Worker consultation

From the General Secretary of the International Metalworkers' Federation

Sir, I suppose it was a coincidence that, immediately preceding a report from 17 leading chairmen of European companies expressing justified concern about the gradual disintegration of the EEC (page 15, September 13), was a letter (page 13) from a British Conservative Euro MP arguing that what has happened to the EEC Vredeling directive over providing information to workers is a good thing.

To recall the arguments over the Vredeling directive, which was aimed at providing employees with increased information rights, would be tedious, but no one will deny that the combination of American and European multinational lobbying power, aided by right-wing Euro MPs such as Mr Spencer, has completely emasculated the original Vredeling proposal.

Now I happen to agree with the words of Mr Grynham, the chairman of Volvo, about the future disintegration of the EEC and the need for urgent steps to reverse this process. But while the European

institutions, under unremitting pressure from business interests, do all in their power to scupper initiatives aimed at social progress and ignore calls for action to combat unemployment and social efforts at making multinational companies operate under the same rules as national companies, who can blame the masses of West Europe's population, those in and out of work and their families, if they profess no interest in the future of the EEC?

The chairmen of ICI, Shell, Philips, Fiat and so on might ask themselves whether their idea of Europe is one which serves only the immediate profitability of their individual companies. If that is the case, and I fear on the evidence of their lobbying over Vredeling it is, then their noble words about European unity will always be confounded by their shortsighted actions.

Sincerely yours,
HERMAN REBHAN,
General Secretary,
International Metalworkers' Federation,
Route des Acacias 54 bis,
Case postale 563,
CH-1227 Geneva,
Switzerland,
September 16.

Action on abortion

From Dr James Owen Drife

Sir, Ms Nankivell rightly points out (September 21) that the 28-week upper limit on legal termination of pregnancy is out of date and should be reduced, but her suggested limit of 14 weeks is based on a misunderstanding of amniocentesis that may have misled your readers.

Amniocentesis (drawing fluid from the womb) is done around the sixteenth week of pregnancy and is impossible at 12 weeks because the womb is too small. It is carried out to diagnose congenital abnormality, and with spina bifida an answer can be obtained within days of the test. However, in Down's syndrome and other chromosomal abnormalities analysis of the fluid takes about three weeks and termination cannot be carried out until the twentieth week of pregnancy, even if no technical or administrative delays occur. Faster methods of making these diagnoses are being examined, but are not yet reliable.

Age of the train

From Mr Alan Etherington

Sir, As one of the earlier "Euston people" and also as one of the present "Liverpool Street people" referred to by Paul Jennings in his recent article, "A case of terminal ferrocuria" (September 10), I feel I must respond to some of the points he made. I write not as a victim of ferrocuria (the state of being ashamed of any suggestion of rail travel) but as an exponent of ferrogloria (the state of being proud of such a suggestion).

The great horizontal girders on the apparent Tower of Babel to be seen today at Liverpool Street station are merely the means whereby major repairs are being carried out to the roof of the Western Train Shed, which is to be retained and restored to its original noble glory, with its unsurpassed height unbroken.

As to the new concourse, one will still enter it from various levels. There will be, as Paul Jennings hopes, "the mystery of glass and magical processions of people in space-filling counter-flow" and we shall certainly achieve at least some of the objectives in his final list.

Nevertheless some reduction in the legal limit is possible and desirable, but when abortion was last discussed in Parliament the debate was inconclusive and the status quo was left intact. Doctors have therefore been left with the ethical decisions about late abortion, and it is rarely performed close to the limit set by Parliament.

Recently it has been suggested in your columns (September 20) that ethical decisions in medicine should be made not by doctors but by laymen. Ms Nankivell's letter and Parliament's indecision both indicate to me that this suggestion is impracticable.

Yours faithfully,
JAMES O. DRIFE,
University of Leicester,
School of Medicine,
Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology,
Clinical Sciences Building,
Leicester Royal Infirmary,
PO Box 65,
Leicester,
September 23.

Keeping quiet

From Mr Tom Chidley

Sir, At school our music master had a message which he would regularly belt at his choir: "Don't cough, swallow".

Since the season of mists is all but upon us, as the British public remain as phlegmatic as ever, would it not be possible for the managers of our concert halls to have some notices drawn up?

Yours faithfully,
TOM CHIDLEY,
58 Ardley Road,
Harrow Weald,
Middlesex,
September 20.

Financing pensions in weak economy

From Mr Nigel Vinson and Mr Philip Chappell

Sir, Lord Byers (September 17) by implication criticises our proposals to give the option for personal and portable pensions - as the self-employed now have - to all.

We share his concern to protect what has been done for the welfare of pensioners, but it is indeed the very scale of the success of the measures for which Lord Byers was in part responsible that leads us to the present dilemma - the core issue of how to finance pensions in a weak economy with a growing demographic imbalance.

We do not suggest for one moment that existing pension arrangements have come about for anything but the best possible motives, and for some people these arrangements have proved highly satisfactory. However, for many more who, either optionally or through no fault of their own, have to change jobs the present arrangements are inadequate.

Our proposals did not start from trying to resolve the balance between leavers and stayers but rather because we perceived the lack of personal identification and involvement by the member in the wealth represented by the £120bn of pension fund assets. It happens to be a most timely and beneficial by-product of our proposals that they would, over a period, also solve the early leaver problem.

Unless we begin soon to make a progressive and gradual shift in the property rights to the capital represented by pension funds we shall finish, in as little as 20 years, with a society where virtually everything is owned by the institutions.

History shows that this is undesirable, and unnecessary, because the alternative of personalising that wealth must be so much better for the employee, the company and the nation at large.

We believe that nothing but

benefit would come from people closely relating to the wealth represented by their pension funds and realising how much value they and the company are accumulating together. An annual declaration of the employee's position, as is already given by a number of leading companies, could do nothing, but good, if only to moderate the excessive expectations of pensioners.

If eventually the rights of early leavers are made equal to those of long stayers then, in logic, if all are treated the same it would not be difficult to optionally administer each pension fund as a unit trust. This would bring all the motivational benefits of identification with that wealth - individuals are more likely to understand the process of wealth-creation if they own it.

There is nothing mandatory about our proposals; we seek no U-turns but rather progressive voluntary changes within the pensions industry. We hope for minor regulatory alterations to enable ex-employees to transfer their preserved pensions into an approved personal scheme and, indeed, pension administrators should be grateful to get rid of the obligation to track down and pay snippets of monthly pension to ex-employees who left the company some 30 years before.

Overall, our proposals give the chance to be more fair to those who, in our increasingly mobile mobile times, might wish to have the option - the freedom to choose - to take their pension with them, as the self-employed can. What is more, they encourage the dissemination of ownership, that essential condition for a free and responsible society.

Yours etc,
NIGEL VINSON,
PHILIP CHAPPELL,
Centre for Policy Studies,
8 Wilfred Street, SW1,
September 21.

Trees and the landscape

From Dame Sylvia Crowe

Sir, Recent correspondence in your columns is a welcome proof of the current widespread concern for our landscape. This exchange of views is doubly encouraging because real and lasting gain to our environment can only be assured if there is dialogue and mutual understanding between all those concerned with the use of our land.

Damage to the landscape is usually the result of the blinkered pursuit of one particular interest, be it industry, transport, housing, agriculture or forestry, and our country suffers today from many examples of this over-specialisation. But Britain is also fortunate in having a rich legacy in both town and countryside where the prime land use has accommodated other values.

Most of the agricultural landscape, while efficiently fulfilling its prime role of food production, still gives pleasure to those who live in it and look at it, as well as providing the natural habitats without which the countryside would be lifeless. Similarly the majority of our forests combine timber production with conservation and are increasingly

being managed to this end and to provide recreation. Reservoirs now not only supply our water, but are major wildlife habitats and centres of recreation.

The wide advocacy of increased tree planting perhaps indicates that we are at last to reverse the centuries old deforestation of our land, but the most fruitful use of this renaissance requires careful thought, knowledge and imagination.

Large multi-purpose forests have their place, especially on our more degraded soils, but of even greater benefit to the land in general are the small woodlands and shelter belts in the countryside and, above all, the woodlands of our green belts and cities, giving untold pleasure to town dwellers and providing areas of great value in nature conservation.

Afforestation on derelict land is bringing new life and enjoyment to old industrial cities, such as Stoke-on-Trent, Warrington and now Liverpool. Let us hope that the plans for redeveloping London's Docklands will also take the opportunity to include, for the pleasure of Londoners, a new forest and water landscape.

Yours faithfully,
SYLVIA CROWE,
B/59 Ladbroke Grove, W11.

Church membership

From the Rev Brother Martin, SSF

Sir, Mr P. A. Barter states, in his letter of September 17, that he is bewildered about declining membership of the Church of England, for he had previously understood that new translations of the Bible and modern services would attract more people into attending church.

He is, in fact, expressing a popular misconception, and one which has been repudiated several times by Canon R. C. D. Jasper, who was chairman of the commission which put the proposals before the General Synod which ultimately resulted in the publication of the *Alternative Service Book*.

Members of that commission knew sufficient about human nature to realize that unwilling people would not be persuaded into commitment to Christ merely through linguistic and liturgical changes.

Nevertheless, many of those who are so committed benefit enormously from the insights and freshness of the new services, and their justification (or otherwise) should be argued along these lines.

Yours faithfully,
MARTIN,
The Society of St Francis,
St Francis House,
15 Botolph Lane,
Cambridge,
September 19.

Yachting facilities

From Mr Anthony Short

Sir, Mr Blackburn (September 21) misses the point of Mr Collard's letter (September 15). There is a severe lack of good moorings in Britain. The south coast is attracting many Continental sailors who appreciate our landscape and lifestyle.

Sailing in French waters with their massive tides one soon finds safe anchorages and non-drying moorings even in the smallest fishing villages, such as Granville, Perros or Lezardrieux. They offer greater safety, more flexibility in choice of passage, and increased tourist trade for the area.

The south coast urgently requires safe anchorages and wet berthing at all times at Swanage, Ventnor or Shanklin, Lyme Regis or West Bay and Bognor and Rye. Surely if Bucklers Hard can provide a marina these towns can follow suit and give shelter and sustenance to sailors.

Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY SHORT,
Barthow Moor,
Kirk Ireton,
Derbyshire,
September 23.

Accidents abroad

From Mr Colin Trigger

Sir, The Rev Dr Bray (September 21) is quite correct to emphasise the need for all holidaymakers to be adequately insured against accidents, medical expenses, etc. However, it is difficult to imagine ABTA members being able to promote the value of such insurance in stronger terms than at present.

Every major tour operator offers in his brochure an inclusive, comprehensive policy with limits thought to be more than adequate for all contingencies. In addition, every retail travel agent is trained to recommend insurance to the client and indeed is able to offer a very attractive policy created to ABTA's own specifications. I understand that the majority of holidaymakers booking package holidays through ABTA members take out comprehensive insurance of one kind or another.

Compulsory insurance is not a feasible solution, for not only do we British value the right to make certain decisions for ourselves rather than to be obligated, but it is quite conceivable that the Office of Fair Trading would object to such a practice anyway.

Whilst accidents to holidaymakers are always a matter for concern, it is reasonable to expect that individuals themselves will also take responsibility for their own safety and behaviour abroad. The responsibility for offering satisfactory insurance is, in my opinion, quite adequately discharged today by the tour operator and/or travel agent involved, but I accept that those making their own arrangements are less likely to end up with the protection they deserve.

Yours faithfully,
COLLIN TRIGGER, Chairman,
Tour Operators' Council,
Association of British Travel Agents,
55-57 Newman Street, W1.

Newspeak

From Miss Jean Crowcroft-Bull

Sir, I was somewhat surprised to read, under the headline, "A gik answer to learning English without tears" (September 26) that this linguistic development is regarded as new.

I, and no doubt many other regular and sorely tried readers, was under the impression that this form of communication had been pioneered by the staff of *The Times* with the advent of high technology production methods.

I remain, Sir, your faithful but critical reader,
JEAN CROWCROFT-BULL,
Ling House,
Dominion Street, EC2,
September 26.

Hopes fly high as the big boys pull out

by Arthur Reed

Britain's regional airports, the traditional loss-makers of the domestic aviation business, look set for a better future as the pattern of air travel within the United Kingdom changes radically.

Two major trends are already having an impact. Deregulatory policies of this and the previous Conservative Governments have resulted in a new generation of small airlines springing up, prepared to operate commuter services to towns and cities where none existed before. These airlines are also filling the vacuum left by British Airways as it has withdrawn from unprofitable routes as part of its retrenchment programme.

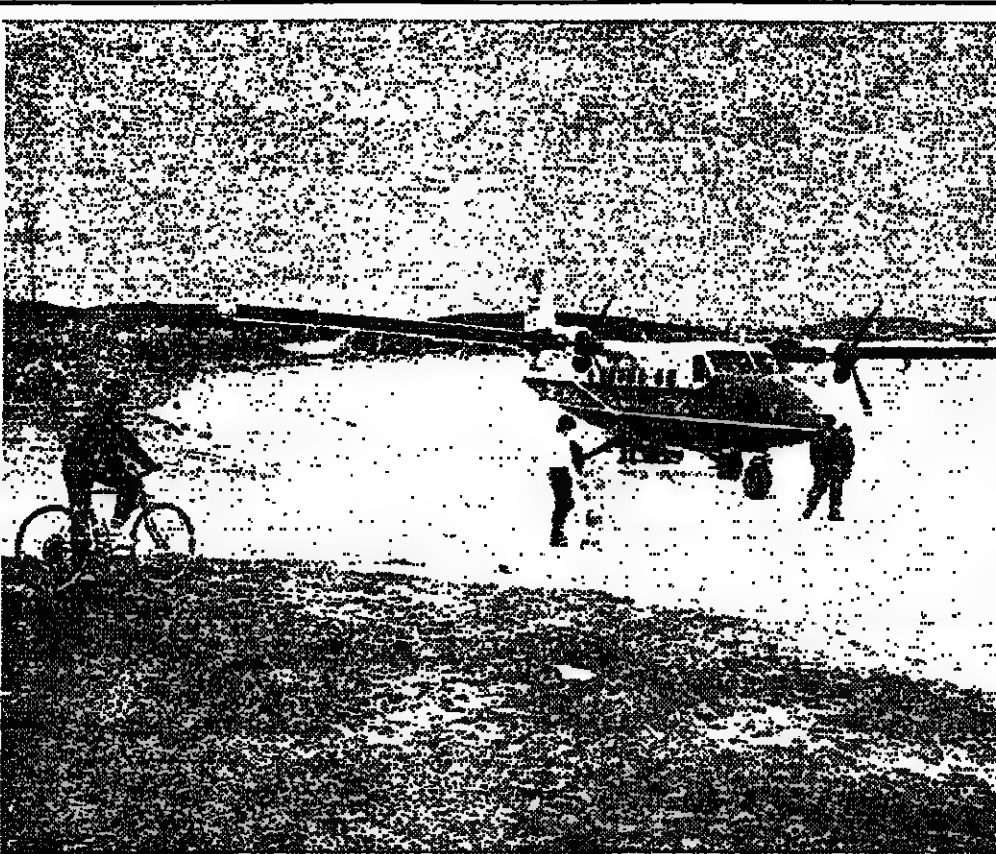
Secondly, the two main London airports, Heathrow and Gatwick, continue to move steadily towards saturation, and as the commuter airlines find it increasingly difficult to obtain take-off and landing "slots", they are inevitably looking to the regions to speed their needs.

Stansted, promoted by both Government and the British Airports Authority as the third London airport, lies virtually empty as the decision of the planning inspector who conducted the 18-month inquiry into its future is awaited. The outcome is of vital interest to the regions, for if a decision to develop it to take up to 15m passengers a year is made, their future growth could be stunted with such a large amount of additional capacity thrown onto the national market.

But if British Airways' hopes for a fifth terminal at Heathrow are realized, with some modest increase in capacity at Stansted, the scope for growth by the regional airports during the years to the end of the century should know no bounds.

Those who run the airports in the provinces are watching two other impending decisions closely. Government plans to "privatize" the British Airports Authority, possibly selling off its seven airports — three serving London, the remainder in Scotland — could also have a serious impact on their future growth.

The Civil Aviation Authority, which at present operates a number of smaller airports in the country, while providing air traffic control and other technical services at others, is also undergoing Government scrutiny. The result of this could conceiv-



From the big city to the beach: Manchester Airport with its terminal and runway, and the more casual approach at Barra Beach Airport, in Scotland

been running the operation at Exeter for Devon County Council, lost the contract when it came up for renewal and from next year British Airports International takes over.

About £3m has been spent on the airport in recent years; the runway lengthened and strengthened, a new radar system installed and passenger facilities improved. Although loan charges are high, it operates profitably and once again companies running inclusive tours on the continent are crucial to its business.

Air UK operates the important Exeter-Gatwick link and flights to the Channel Islands. Brymon operates from Exeter to the Shetlands.

Mr Bill Bryce, the chairman of Brymon Airways, is one of the best-known names in the west country and is becoming increasingly well-known throughout the

Plymouth is a success story

country. His is not the first company to try their hand at Plymouth airport. Others have failed over the years but by constant improvements to the facilities, a keen eye for worthwhile routes and sheer persistence Mr Bryce has built a success story.

His airline became the tenant of Plymouth airport in 1974 and in 1980 purchased it on a 125 year lease from the City Council. Mr Bryce called it "controlling our own destiny", but the takeover meant Brymon was the only airline in the country to own and operate its own airport. It also operates the civil airport at Newquay (alongside RAF St Mawgan) for Restormel council.

In 1972, the airline carried a mere 2,500 passengers. This year it expects the figure to be about 250,000 — about 150,000 of them on its scheduled services to the Shetlands, Channel Islands, Gatwick and Heathrow, Birmingham, Cork and Brittany. The remainder are carried on a contract with the Chevron Oil company linking Aberdeen with Unst, Britain's most northerly airport.

The airline uses two DHC Dash 7s for the Chevron contract and one more in Plymouth. The quiet aircraft with its STOL (short take off and landing) ability has been important to Brymon and earlier this year the company landed one in the heart of London's dockland, within sight of the City.

British Airways has operated a successful helicopter service from

The charter tour business is the airport's bread and butter and 85 per cent of the 400,000 passengers using Cardiff this year were on tours. Even so, scheduled services are substantial (Dan Air is the major carrier). The airport is particularly pleased about its link with Schiphol (Amsterdam) for world-wide connections and now also boasts a Toronto service.

Ian Cran said: "I am very confident about the future. People are fed up having to go through Gatwick or Heathrow. They want to fly from their local airport".

Bristol airport, operated by Bristol City Council, has turned a £122,000 loss in 1980-81 into a £200,000 profit in 1982-83. The annual turnover is about £6m.

Mr Wilson, the manager, is in no doubt that the charter tour business has been a major success. Two-thirds of last year's total of 303,000 passengers were "tour" customers; the remaining one-third on scheduled service, mainly domestic.

He believes the airport is vital for a major industrial and commercial centre such as Bristol in spite of exceptional road rail connections with London. Now he is planning keenly for the future.

"Our objective is to be the number one airport of the south west and we will be pressing the Government for regional status. That would help us to put up development plans, get planning permission and raise finance if we wanted to develop further," he said.

In the meantime the airport has announced a new scheduled service to Gatwick, starting in October. It makes Bristol the twenty-second British airport to link into Gatwick.

Exeter Airport Ltd., which has

Regional airports

chester International, with a new management team heavily oriented towards marketing, has been pursuing this path, and an indication of its success are regular jumbo flights of the Australian airline Qantas.

Run by two local authorities, Manchester International is the big success of the British regional airports scene, ploughing £5m profit back into the rates in the last financial year, but for many others the story is a far less happy one. According to the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy, only nine of the 23 local-authority run airports were in surplus in the financial year 1981-82.

Overall, the municipal airports returned a profit of £2.1m for the year, but the bulk of this was contributed by four airports, Manchester, Birmingham, East Midlands, and Luton. CIPFA's forecast for 1983-84 is for an improvement, with a total surplus of £3.8m, although it now appears that only eight of the airports will be in surplus, and with losses in the case of Liverpool, and a total surplus of nearly £3m. Apart from Sumburgh, all eight Scottish airports run largely as social services by the Civil Aviation Authority are loss-makers, and the authority, under direction from Government, is trying to sell them off to the private sector. It is a trend which has already begun, in the West Country, with Plymouth airport now owned and

operated by Brymon Airways, one of the commuter airlines which are opening up new air travel business for regional airports throughout the country.

One of the great problems which has always held back the development of airports in the British provinces has been local pride: airports are operated, often at a large cost to the local ratepayers, in areas where none could be justified, and in many cases in the geographical shadow of another vying for the same passenger and freight markets.

Questions have also been raised as to the wisdom of allowing local authorities to operate what are highly-technical businesses with large budgets, especially since these airports have to compete for a share of the rates with sewage, cemeteries, and playing fields. But although the decisions on buying new radars, or terminal and runway extensions, may be slow in coming from council committees, and although airports compete with each other each year for Government approval of major schemes, there is no evidence to suggest that safety standards are compromised.

The Civil Aviation Authority keeps a tight watch on technical standards at every airport, whether it be Manchester International, or Barra, where landings are on the beach, and there are professional companies such as International Aeradio ready to provide under contract technical

services, from running fire services to managing entire airports.

In the past, it had been suggested that there should be a central body controlling the development of regional airports on a national basis, and that the British Airports Authority should take on this role. It is a suggestion which never found favour with the BAA, as that body pursued its remit from Government to be profitable. Today, free enterprise policies are beginning to dominate both the airports and airline sectors of British aviation, and this should lead, in the long term, to a leaner industry, and a better deal for the public for which it matters.

The West

Take-off for the holiday tours

Mr Les Wilson has been the general manager of the Bristol airport for the last three crucial years in which a loss has been turned into a healthy profit. In spite of that success he believes

there are too many UK provincial airports and fears that as competition intensifies some will go to the wall.

Ian Cran, director of the Cardiff-Wales airport does not agree. He believes that no large centre of population can be without its own airport and is convinced of the role of local authorities in providing them. He also says the modern air traveller, businessman or holidaymaker, now expects such a local service.

Both airports, together with Exeter, owe much to the increasing desire of air travellers to fly abroad without having to waste a day going to Gatwick or Heathrow. So, for them, the growth of inclusive tour holidays by operators using regional airports has been a major boon.

All three of those airports are in the hands of local authorities, but the story of Plymouth airport is also that of Bill Bryce, an airlines entrepreneur still pushing his business from strength to strength.

The Cardiff-Wales airport has been owned and operated since 1974 by the three county councils of Glamorgan — mid, south and west. It is officially designated as the regional airport of South Wales and the South West.

In 1981-82 the councils were each called to contribute about £400,000 to the airport, but the figure is declining and the airport recovers about 90 per cent of its revenue costs.

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Continued on page 16

REGIONAL AIRPORTS

The North: ambitious plans, despite the 'honeypot' of the South

Designated in the 1978 White Paper on policy as an international gateway airport, Manchester International has wasted no time in setting out to live up to that accolade, and has emerged as the undoubted leader in the northern region of the country.

The region as a whole is well-served by local airports, with some of them too close together to make true economic sense. It was a problem that was identified by the 1978 White Paper as having particular relevance to Manchester and Liverpool, and to Newcastle and Teesside.

The document saw no reason why the future development of either Newcastle or Teesside should be inhibited, but classified the former as a B category regional airport, and the latter as a C. With Manchester as a category A airport, and Liverpool a C, it is inevitable that Liverpool should be heavily overshadowed, and continues to be a consistent loss-maker. But the local council owners appear determined to continue with it, and small airlines have been happy to move in recently when the larger carriers restricted their operations.

According to forecasts by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) for 1983-84, Manchester handling 5.1 million passengers will have a surplus of £6.8m while Liverpool with 280,000 passengers will have a £2.9m deficit.

Newcastle is estimated to return a surplus of £1.1m, with 1.1 million passengers, and Teesside a £347,000 deficit with 339,000 passengers. All these airports serve communities that depend for their livelihood on large concentrations of commerce and industry, and their rate of future growth is inevitably bound up closely with the speed at which

these businesses emerge from the recession. The area as a whole is far enough away from the London air travel "honeypot" to have an aviation life of its own, although high-speed train services, the motorway network, and the recently-improved British Airways shuttle to Manchester, with the promise of modern airlines such as the Boeing 757 replacing obsolete Tridents, makes it increasingly easy for passengers to use the services of the airports in the south.

Big expansion plans going ahead

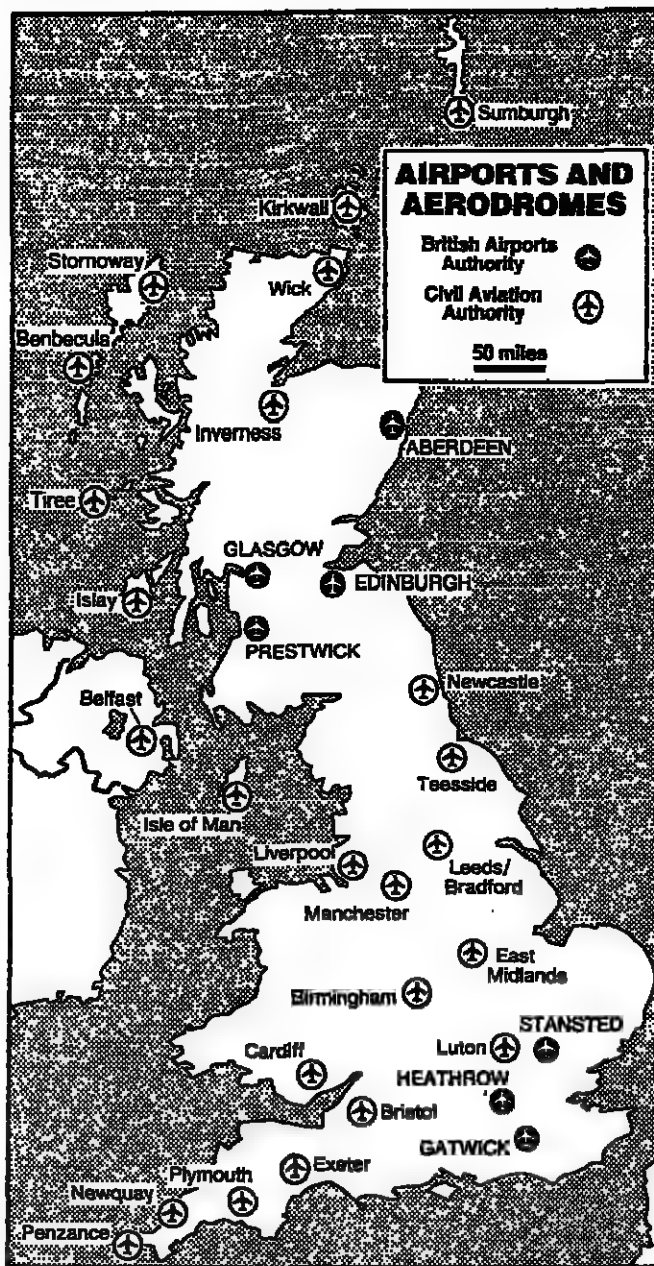
Almost without exception, the airports of the northern region have ambitious expansion plans. Humber's opportunities were greatly enhanced with the opening in 1981 of the Humber bridge: this doubled overnight the airport's catchment area. CIPFA estimates that in 1983-84 the number of passengers using the airport will increase by 4.5 per cent over the previous year, although still only reaching 70,000, and that it will have a deficit of £468,000.

Leeds/Bradford, CIPFA forecasts, will, with 426,000 passengers, an increase of 2.4 per cent, return a loss of £100,000. This would be a surprising decline from the £1,049,000 operating surplus achieved in 1982/83 for the three authorities who operate it - West Yorkshire County Council, Leeds City Council and Bradford City Council. As part of a big expansion programme, the main runway is being lengthened to 2,250 metres, lighting and navigational aids are being improved, and the first phase of extending the terminal building will be completed by the end of 1984.

Blackpool will have a 25 per cent increase in passenger traffic to 72,000, but will still incur a deficit of £389,000, while Carlisle, by far the smallest municipal airport in the region, will deal with just 3,000 passengers, and will lose £112,000. In Belfast, an interesting recent development has been the opening up to commercial services by Short Brothers, the aerospace manufacturing company, of their own harbour airport in competition with the main international airport further from the centre of the city.

Manchester, which is controlled by an airport authority committee of 20, split equally between the two owning local authorities, the City Council, and the Greater Manchester Council, with Mr Gil Thompson, as its chief executive, is executing a £100m in a development programme to accommodate an estimated 12 million passengers a year in the 1990s. A big item within this massive total has been the £22m cost of rebuilding and extending the runway to 10,000ft, and the installation of what the airport claims to be the most-advanced runway lighting system in the world. The work was carried out over 18 months, largely at night, while flight operations continued. The runway is also fitted with a blind landing system up to category 3B standard, enabling operations in the foggiest weather.

Other large projects which have either been begun, or are planned, include extensions to the passenger terminal, enlargement of the taxi-free and duty-free areas, extension of the aircraft parking area, a second terminal, and a loop into the airport from the inter-city railway line. The present passenger terminal has a capacity of 6.5 million passengers

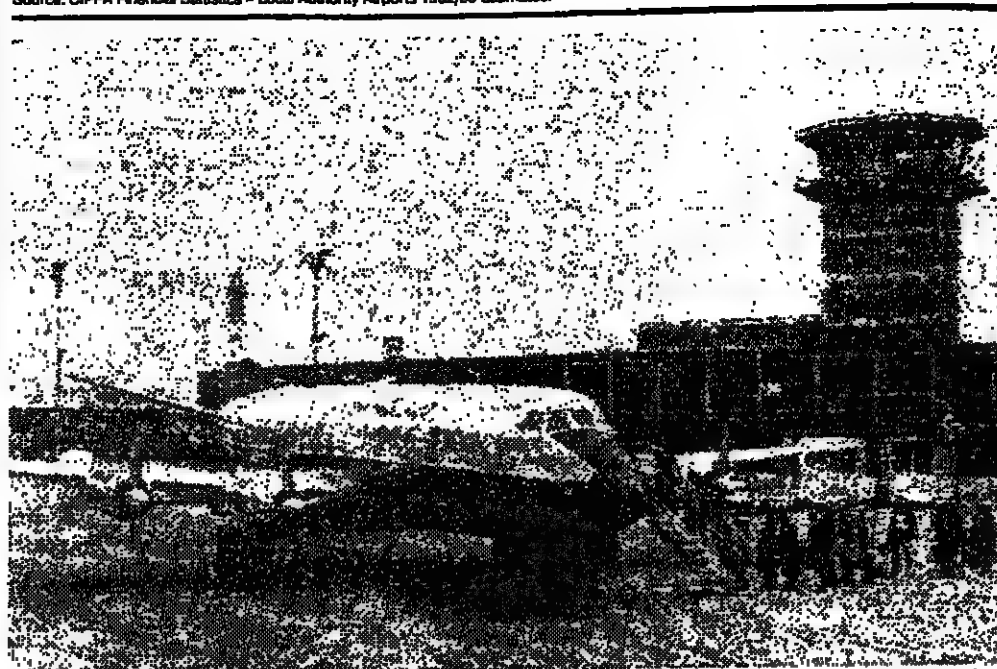


OPERATIONAL COMPARISONS OF UK AIRPORTS

All Local Authority Airports with estimated operating income over £2 million in 1982/83

	Total Passengers (incl. Transit)	Expenditure	Income	Surplus as a proportion of income	Passengers per £100 of Expenditure
	000s	£000	£000	%	
Manchester	5,007	32,375	46,371	13,996	15.5
Luton	1,930	12,128	14,862	2,534	16.9
Birmingham	1,540	8,880	11,559	2,579	17.7
Newcastle	1,055	5,528	7,714	2,186	19.3
East Midlands	782	5,145	6,974	1,829	14.8
Leeds/Bradford	400	1,815	2,592	777	22.0
Bristol	345	2,615	2,986	381	13.2
Cardiff	330	3,411	2,815	-596	9.7
Liverpool	314	5,038	3,229	-1,809	6.2
Teesside	291	2,639	2,341	-298	11.0
Average				21.6	15.1

Source: CIPFA Financial Statistics - Local Authority Airports 1982/83 Estimates.



Leeds/Bradford airport at Yeadon: the main runway is being lengthened and the terminal building extension will be completed by the end of 1984

Luton, flying into profit

The airports of the Midlands and East Anglia continue to have a lively existence of their own, in spite of the development in recent years of greatly-improved surface links between the communities which they serve and the main London airports.

Luton is the biggest of the group, handling about 1.8m passengers a year, the vast majority of them on package holiday flights to the beaches of the Mediterranean, or winter sports slopes. Run by the Luton Borough Council, it is into the second phase of a £10m development plan largely concentrated on the terminal buildings. An air-conditioned departure lounge, one of new arrivals hall, a covered arrivals area, and offices for customs and excise, immigration, and health staff have already been handed over by the builders as part of phase two.

According to forecasts by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy, Luton airport will make a profit of around £1m during the 1983-84 financial year, although as its facilities are so closely tied up with those of the travel trade, which, in turn, can be seriously affected by recessionary forces, the outcome will remain in doubt until the last minute.

First European Boeing 767 base

The airport will become, early in 1984, the base for the first European Boeing 767 wide-bodied airliners, Britannia Airways, the biggest British package-holiday airline, having chosen this type to augment its 737s.

Monarch, another British independent airline specializing in the "bucket-and-spade" business, introduced the other new Boeing type, the 757, to Luton several months ago. But although its speciality is package holiday flights, Luton is also an important centre for business aviation, with McAlpine basing its fleet of over 20 British Aerospace 125 jets and other executive types there.

The M1 motorway which opens up Luton to the massive catchment areas of London and the Midlands also runs close to East Midlands, at Castle Donington, near Derby, an airport which handled around 900,000 passengers during the 1982-83 financial year and which, according to CIPFA forecasts, could approach the 1m mark during 1983-84. Like Luton, it is profitable, with a forecast surplus of £1.3m in the current financial year. Both scheduled and non-scheduled services operate from it.

The 1978 airports White Paper made the point that East Midlands, although further from the main centre of population in the Midlands than Birmingham, is well-sited in relation to the motorway network, and has an important industrial and commercial catchment area of its own. The airport inevitably view with Birmingham, and two advantages which it has over its neighbour are that it lends itself more readily to expansion, while fewer people in the surrounding area are affected by aircraft noise.

Birmingham, municipally-owned like East Midlands, boasts a much wider network of scheduled services, and is likely to

increase the number of passengers handled to 1.7m in 1983-84, compared with 1.6m last year. CIPFA estimates that it will return a profit of about £365,000 this year.

The airport suffers from the drawbacks of a restricted site, and has traditionally been the target for environmental protests from residents of the built-up areas to its north and west. On the other hand, it is superbly sited to serve the important concentration of industry and commerce in the West Midlands, which demands business connections with other parts of Britain and Europe, and to serve the holiday pursuits of one of the country's main concentrations of population. It is also in the centre of a web of motorways and main railway lines, and is close by the national exhibition centre.

The West Midlands County Council, its present owner, is seeking to break free of the restrictions of the airport site by developing an ambitious new terminal and associated works, including a driverless train system to link it to the exhibition centre and Birmingham international station. The train system chosen is MAGLEV, which uses a frictionless magnetic suspension instead of conventional wheels, and is driven along a guideway track elevated over roads and car parks by a linear induction motor.

Construction of the new terminal building began in 1981, and its design is planned to handle up to 3m passengers and 33,000 aircraft movements by 1990. One great advantage which it offers passengers compared with the original building, where they have to walk across the apron in all weathers to reach their aircraft, is a series of telescopic, covered piers which will link directly with the aircraft doors.

West Midlands CC expects the new development to create up to 2,500 new jobs by the late 1980s, to attract more commerce and industry to the area, and to extend the list of destinations. At present, some 30 are served by scheduled flights and 40 by charter. One interesting recent development is the start of operations by

Birmingham Executive Airways, flying Jetstream 31 turbo-props on business routes into Europe dropped by British Airways during its recent severe retrenchment.

Norwich, jointly owned by the city council and the Norfolk County Council, is gaining traffic slowly as commuter services develop, and it becomes an increasingly important jumping-off point for Schiphol airport, Amsterdam, which promotes itself as "the third London airport". Air UK is a big operator through the airport, and has one of the biggest overhaul bases for Fokker aircraft there outside Holland. The airport handled some 172,000 passengers in 1982-83 and is forecast to increase this by five per cent to 180,000 during

the current financial year. According to CIPFA estimates, it will make a marginal surplus this year.

Southend, owned by the local borough council, has traditionally specialized in cross-Channel links, and is expected to handle 107,000 passengers this year, seven per cent up on 1982-83. CIPFA forecasts that it will lose £460,000 during the current year.

Like all the airports in the region, it lies under the shadow of Stansted. A decision to proceed with the development of that airport to take 15m passengers a year, as is wanted by the British Airports Authority, would have a significant impact on their long-term growth prospects.

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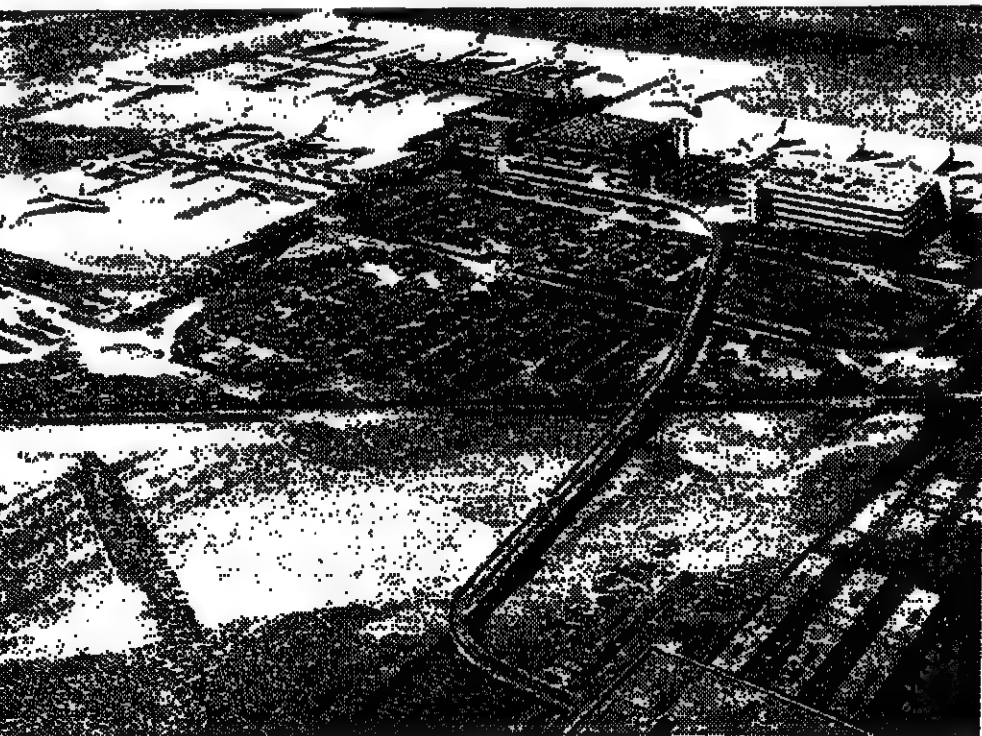
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A boom for tours

Continued from page 15

Penzance to the Scillies for many years and, in spite of this summer's Sikorsky crash, has provided a vital link between islands and mainland.

However, all is not well. A Department of Trade grant totalling £100,000 which was intended to keep the Scillies airport on St Mary's open for three years is almost gone. Mr Billy Mumford, the chairman of the island's council, has warned that about £125,000 a year is needed and negotiations are being conducted with the department to keep the airport open as a "social service" for the islanders.

"If it closes," said Mr Mumford, "we would probably lose 50 per cent of our tourist trade and that would destroy the island's economy."

Guernsey subsidizes its airport without qualms. It handles 500,000 passengers a year and is far too important for the island's economy for its future ever to be in doubt, but the authorities there must look with considerable envy at Jersey where the airport handles an astonishing 1.45m passengers a year and produces a profit of over £300,000.

The airport was one of Jersey's undertakings which, in 1971, was designated to become a self-sufficient trading area. Costs and efficiency are constantly examined.

Craig Seton

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THE ARTS

Caroline Moorehead meets Shiva Naipaul, whose novel *A Hot Country* is published this week

Earning experience to elevate into fiction

"Every day," reflects a character in Shiva Naipaul's new novel, *A Hot Country*, "I have to redefine myself." It is, admits Naipaul, himself talking. Trinidadian, a descendant of Hindus who migrated to the West Indies at the turn of the century, Naipaul returns often, both in conversation and writing, to the theme of belonging.

"I'm afflicted by that sense of unreality," he says. "I don't have a social station to fall back on. I'm an ambiguous person, a fluid sort of being. My life has been defined by three poles that don't meet: Trinidad, where I was born; India, which provided me with a religion and a name; and England. I exist in a very vulnerable relationship to all three." Being born in Trinidad, he adds, gave him a permanent feeling of being a minority.

Naipaul is now in his late thirties, a tall, somewhat corpulent man with round face and round glasses and the courteous, slightly grave manner of someone older. He gives an impression of self-sufficiency, of purposefulness. He has just moved from Maida Vale to a first-floor flat in Belsize Park in north London. Workmen are moving plugs and neat piles of books piled up against the walls. He is apologetic, a little uneasy as if the routine of things had been upsettingly disrupted.

He came from Trinidad on a scholarship to Oxford in 1964, at the age of 18, the younger son in a family of five girls and two boys. The older son, Vidinadar, better known as V. S. Naipaul, was already here and writing. Their father, who had worked on the *Trinidad Guardian* and written several short stories, had died when Shiva was seven. The younger boy was to read philosophy and psychology. "The going-abroad was part of the ritual of growing-up. There was no question of doing anything else. I travelled by ship: the scene on the decks, the farewells, the gathering of aunts, the new suits. It was all part of the rite."

Friends who met him then recall a slender and timid young man shattered



Photograph of Shiva Naipaul by Sarah Karmali

by an incident in Notting Hill Gate when a lorry driver spat at him. "I arrived with adolescent rapture," he says. "Most of my notions were bookish. I remember being very afraid. The first night I stayed in a room in the British Council. I had never been in a room like that on my own. I felt hungry but I wondered how to use the restaurant. There was a lot of alarm in my excitement."

At Oxford he read Chinese; the behavioural psychology of the 1960s baffled him and he wanted "the cheap

thrill of trying to tackle Confucius in the original". It was a frivolous choice, not part of a grander scheme. Just before leaving university he began to write a story that turned two years later and after many metamorphoses into a warmly praised first novel, *Fireflies*. Meanwhile, he had married.

As we talk, the phone rings. It is his brother, "to console me for not being on the Booker Prize short list" (V. S. Naipaul won it a few years ago with *In a Free State*). Both brothers made their

names as novelists; both travel and write about the places they see; both are preoccupied with problems of identity, the confusing ties of culture and values; both write with irony and pessimism; both have collected an array of literary prizes.

The similarities are so enormous: Naipaul is 13 years older. "In no sense has it made it easier for me. But I have done what I wanted to. There is nothing else to be said," he laughs, to make the words sound less censorious.

After *Fireflies* and a second novel, *The Chip-Shop Gathers*, Shiva Naipaul turned to non-fiction, although he insists that he regards both as one body of work, different only in that non-fiction "continues to perform the great service of widening and deepening my experiences" which later may or may not emerge in fiction. He is careful to distinguish his own writing from the "new journalism" of mainly American writers like Tom Wolfe, arguing that whereas Wolfe makes the narrator the central figure, creating situations in which to dramatize himself, he is more passive, more a subjective reporter of mood.

"Handling the self, the seeing, experiencing 'I' is one of the most difficult things a writer can do. The persona isn't even or balanced; but then we don't live in an objective world." Naipaul talks as he writes, with often unusual choice of word, thoughts fluently marshalled into sequence. "One only gradually becomes a writer. You have to teach yourself with each book: there is no such thing as a writer's skill, essentially deployed."

At the end of the year, Naipaul is going to Australia, to spend five or six months travelling, starting in South-East Asia, and with no clear idea of what kind of book will result. His wife and nine-year-old son, who goes to school in Hampstead, will stay in London. He has never wanted to go back to Trinidad and says there is nothing there to feed or keep him. "In many ways it would have been a kind of death to go back. London has room for the oddity I have become."

It was trying to live in the United States, however, first on the West Coast and later in Connecticut, that taught him that he did not want to live anywhere but England. "It's familiar," he says. "I'm accustomed to it. But I don't believe in roots. I will go on living my peculiar life, always oblique to the larger society, in it but not of it. It's impossible for me to have roots. I don't know what soil to put them down in. But I don't search for them either. I'm not an activist."

Television

Time bravely spent

Some courage was involved in ITV's decision to show Brian Moser's trilogy *Frontier*, which follows the cocaine trail from the coca leaf plantations in Bolivia and Amazonia to its arrival in America where, despite government efforts, \$25 billion of the stuff is imported annually to be snuffed at smart-set parties and to offset the annals of affluence.

Two hour-long films were shown last night and a third, followed by a profile of Mr Moser on Channel 4, will be shown tonight. That is three hours and 45 minutes, but time well spent, and more courage was needed from Mr Moser, who was shot at and threatened and whose crew endured many vicissitudes to bring this graphic story to the screen for Central.

We began last night in Colombia with a Mr Eliseo who runs a jungle laboratory where he processes the leaf. Despite primitive laboratory conditions, sporadic police raids and gun battles, he produces cocaine to a quality that made a scientist examining the residue in prison conditions in Miami exclaim "You can't help wondering where he learnt his chemistry."

Mr Eliseo, who gathered rubber until it proved profitable, had earlier explained that poverty had been his incentive and that a few pesos for his old age his ambition. Dealers pay \$17 a gram in the jungle; they market it in America at \$400 on the streets.

In Colombia, coca is regarded as "food for the soul" and has been chewed for thousands of years as an insulation against the harshness of life. In Bolivia, where we were after the intrusion of *News at Ten*, tin miners have coca-leaves as we might have tea-breaks. Coca deadens the pangs of thirst and hunger and presumably compensates for working all day and not finding any tin, which means they do not get paid. "If it wasn't for coca we would be completely screwed up", explained one. But the price is going up for the miners as demand increases from the sweat-soaked of the western world and as the Bolivians, at the behest of the US, try to eradicate it.

The peasants who grow coca have no option. It is their sole income - "God gave us that leaf and no one can take it away". But the army is trying and the Indians are in the middle: poverty on one side, the army on the other. Mr Moser questioned the necessity of their plight as the medical effects of coca, and even cocaine, he said, are still uncertain.

He tells a story well and his crew deserve medals. Tonight, those of us who are fixed will be in America, learning how cocaine is smuggled in and of its uses and abuses. Mr Moser will be returning to his questioning of whether the eradication of the drug at source can be justified.

Dennis Hackett

London theatre

Gas and Candles Stratford East

An old couple with little but death to look forward to, nothing to eat and the power off, stage a hoaxed siege to get a bit of food and attention: that is the starting point for David Henry Wilson's sad-dealing little farce. They never saved a penny and the Majestic Cinema gave their working lives to (be as projectionist, she as usherette) has gone. "We did an honest day's work and look where it got us." That line must raise a round of applause some nights.

But, after beginning desolately with a tealess, sugarless, breadless breakfast (which younger members of the audience, clutching their second or third pints of the evening's foam, hilariously, not working-out is farcical. Having dialled 999 for the police, they have to impersonate IRA gunmen demanding the release of some Irish-sounding prisoner. So Frank opens the window a crack and requests the liberation of Daniel O'Connell and a chauffeur-driven getaway car in a deafening Scots accent.

It had me constantly thinking "pathetic" - sometimes in the kindly sense, sometimes not. Frank has been trying to commit suicide since 1939. After all those years in the cinema, their hoax is partly just their big acting

performance, with the whole country as audience. Radio news reports are really dramatic criticism: "The man seems to be a ditherer, the girl is cool and in command".

That goes for their relationship too. While Derek Francis's lumbering, gloomy Frank panics and pontificates, Doris Hare's Marlene is ever bright and resourceful, comforting and averting disaster. When the requested lunch is lowered in, delicious but probably tugged, she does a little "lib" "I won't touch a drop of English food till Ireland is free". Frank's contribution is "And that goes for us Scots too, look you" in stage Welsh.

Most pathetically of all, they are not looking to the end. Fortunately the author is. Their inevitable surrender brings on an unexpectedly bullying, concealed police chief (Jim Dunk) to encounter Frank's angry indictment of a society that needs a drama to make an effort. That is no joke.

Philip Hedley's direction finds plenty of light and shade in the long dialogue. They are the players' memories, but Mr Francis's bitterness has a perfect foil in Miss Hare's mischievous zest, which never lets you forget how much she loves him and how well she knows how to show it.

Anthony Masters

Put It On Your Head Almeida

The Théâtre du Complicité enjoys teasing its audience but, thankfully, without the aggressive tone so often involved in that word "participation". From the start, when toy crabs on elastic strings are dangled from the balcony on to people sitting below, the mood is playful and friendly.

The four members of the company, former students of the French mime artist Jacques Lecoq, use minimal props. An undulating length of rope becomes the edge of the sea, with a few carefully placed shells. The evening builds up into a Jacques Tati-like fantasy about behaviour on the beach.

A spinster tries to indulge in some modest sunbathing and struggles to remove her tights behind a deckchair, which collapses. A nervous, Bible-reading man removes his spectacles politely to avoid witnessing her embarrassment. Their sense of

decency is rudely shattered by a spiv who arrives with blaring stereophonic radio, and suggestively stripes to his briefs.

The day on the beach becomes more fraught - buying an ice-cream becomes a grotesque nightmare, and eating it a form of torture. The shy man's offer of a cup of tea becomes laden with frenzied imaginings of hidden and disreputable motives.

The actors use a limited amount of dialogue in their sketches, but most of the attempts at communication between the luckless inhabitants of the beach are conducted in sounds and half-sentences. Annabel Arden, wearing Billy Bunter clothes, supplies the sound of the waves, and in one delightful scene becomes an out-of-order telephone box, malevolently rejecting attempts to feed her with coins. The evening is a beautifully constructed mixture of buffoonery and mime and, at one hour, ten minutes in length, avoids any danger of spinning the joke out too far.

Clare Colvin

Pop music

Not a flicker of creativeness

Tom Jones Albert Hall

In midnight blue matador jacket, an ivory silk dress shirt dashed to reveal a gold crucifix, dark trousers sprayed on to his withers and neat high-heeled boots, he presented himself as the archetypal Hollywood Mexican: the Coyotes Boy, come to reclaim his old estate from the marauding Maniowar Gang.

Ecstatic at the sight of their hero, who had been lured away and detained so long in a foreign land, the grateful peasants rushed forward in supplication, presenting him with embraces and keepers: flowers, handkerchiefs and a small native vegetable known as the *leek*, bound with red and green ribbons. Some of the

younger women, who could afford no special gift, revived an antique custom and laid their scanty nether garments at his feet.

It was as silly as that, and as unconvincing. On Monday Tom Jones returned to London with a show whose script might have been lifted entire, in all its fat contrivance, from his television series of many years ago. It was as if his time in America had been spent in armchair simulation.

Jones still has the big-boy voice but no imaginative use is made of it. Listening to his rote version of "The Green, Green Grass of Home", I wondered why he had not thought to try instead the song's young cousin, Bruce Springsteen's "Wreck on the Highway"; then, after that, Jackson Browne's "The Pretender" and even Tom Waits's "Jersey Girl". Instead we heard

"Danny Boy", "Delilah", "What's New, Pussycat" and "I Who Have Nothing".

There was not the merest flicker of creative enthusiasm; just a balding retreat of the ballads-and-belters formula devised for him by Gordon Mills, his early mentor, in the middle 1960s, when he turned away from rock 'n' roll. The disco arrangement of "Fever", more Pontiac than Studio 54, represented the only concession to the tastes of the last 15 years; he seemed more comfortable with the raucous pseudo-soul travesties of Joe Tex's "Show Me" and Otis Redding's "I Can't Turn You Loose", which came in - like the show as a whole - direct from Las Vegas on autopilot.

Richard Williams

London debuts

Music that needs a little more help

If a Telemann cantata fails to make a sharp impression, one is often inclined to blame the composer; but in the Westminster Baroque Ensemble's performance of *Verlösche, ihr Funken, der irdischen Liebe* he was not helped by Gill Ross's ill-projected German, nor by the occasionally flaccid continuo. Such music needs more lift, more enthusiastic championing than much other baroque music, just as the sentiments of the text (especially in the central recitative) need to be more pointedly expressed.

These qualities had been evident earlier in the concert, notably in Miss Ross's three Purcell songs, where her clear, piping soprano was a refreshing contrast to the less idiomatically secure German arias by Handel and to the jerky performance by Alastair Ross of Handel's E major harpsichord suite, where his

extravagant rubato too often blunted the work's rhythmic pulse.

The special pleasure of the evening lay in Robin Camer's clearly articulated and controlled playing of a reproduction 1730s oboe, both in the Telemann and in three sonatas by Handel: here his mellow, fruity tone and crisp rhythms were attentively thrown into relief by Mr Ross's spirited harpsichord and by Anthony Pilech's tasteful cello.

The Pasquier Trio made their greatest impact as a quartet, with the pianist Jean-Philippe Collard. But that is much less a reflection on the quality of their playing than on the two works they chose to play on their own. Ravel's fairly charming Sonatas for Violin and Cello and Roussel's arid, contrapuntally austere String Trio. Nonetheless both works

revealed a finely blended ensemble, characterized by the firm, rounded tone of Régis Pasquier's violin, the rich resonance of Bruno Pasquier's viola and a warmth and whispering restraint in Roland Pidoux's cello that reminded me of Fournier.

The link with Fournier was further reinforced by performance of Fauré's Second Piano Quartet, which in its tastefulness and easy flow, its passion and gloriously muted sounds, recalled the famous recording by Fournier, Thibaud, Vieux and Marguerite Long. If the ear was constantly attracted by the polished, peary transference of Mr Collard's playing, this did not cloud the fact that the Pasquier Trio was constantly aware of the nuances of one another's playing and that it was gifted with an individual and collective emotional response to the music.

Geoffrey Norris

Top awards for contemporary discs

The Philips recording of Tippett's Triple Concerto by György Pauk, Nobuko Imai, Ralph Kirschbaum and the LSO under Sir Colin Davis has been adjudged "record of the year" in the 1982-83 Gramophone Record Awards. It is the first time a concerto recording has won the award, which has generally gone to an opera set.

Twentieth-century music is strongly represented among the

awards. Strauss's *Metamorphosen*, coupled with *Tod und Verklärung*, wins the orchestral section (Berlin PO/Karajan; DG). The opera award goes to Janáček's *The Cunning Little Vixen* (Vienna Philharmonic/Decca).

Concerto award goes to the engineering and production section. The historical (non-vocal) award goes to Bartók at

the Piano, Vol 1 (Hungariton). The prize in the contemporary class itself goes to Boulez's recording of his own *Pli selon pli* (Bryn-Julson/BBCSO; Erato/Conifer).

With the division of the early music awards into two historical sections, this area is also prominent. Sequences and Hymns by Hildegard of Bingen (Hyperion) takes the medieval and renaissance award, while that for baroque goes to Charpentier's *Acton* (Harmoni-Mundi). The choral prize goes to Bach's B minor Mass (Ritkin; Nonesuch/Conifer) - a recording in which the choral parts are, in fact, sung by single voices.

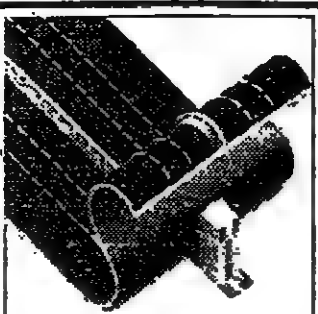
The awards cover recordings issued in the period from January 1982 to May 1983.

Vigour and variety

Le Tombeau des Reinevants, one of Messiaen's earliest substantial orchestral works, receives its British premiere (Bachman, February 18) during the 1983-84 season of the Young Musicians Symphony Orchestra, conducted by its artistic director, James Blair. An ambitious season, which varies from classical orchestral music in the Queen Elizabeth Hall to "classical greats" in the Albert Hall, is entirely sponsored by Unilever.

Two of the YMSO's Festival Hall concerts involve single large-scale works: Britten's *War Requiem* (March 5) and Mahler's Third Symphony (June 7). By contrast Ralph Holmes joins the YMSO (St John's, March 24) for the first public performance of Delius's Suite for violin and orchestra, and also appears as violin soloist, in Bar's *Phantasy*, in the same concert.

The season opens on October 17 with a programme of Elgar's music at the Barbican.



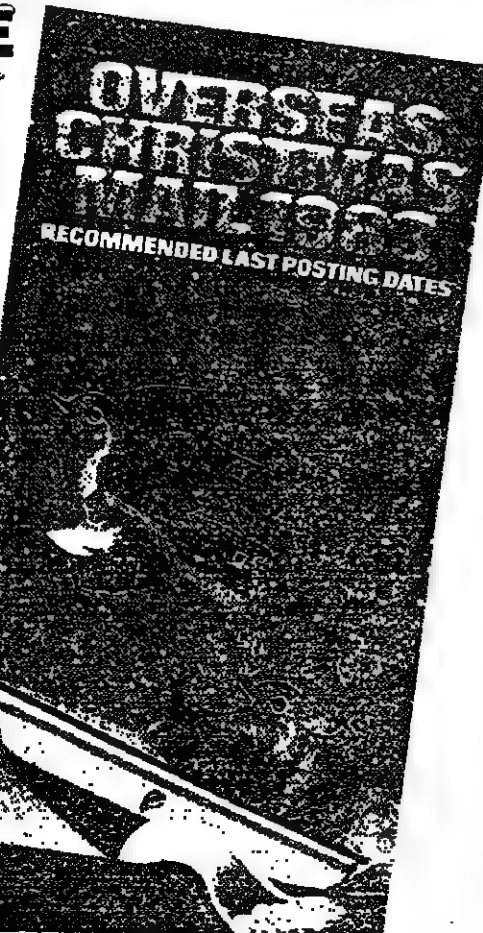
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STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 694.0 down 8.5
FT 100: 82.13 down 0.30
FT All Share: 445.21 down 5.83Bargains: 21.349
Datastream USM Leaders
Index: 93.53 down 0.74
New York Dow Jones
Average: 1248.85 down 2.34Tokyo Nikkei Dow Jones
Index: 9414.15 up 68.37
Hong Kong Hang Seng
Index: 800.70 down 9.32
Amsterdam 154.5 down 0.2
Sydney AO Index: 718.8 down 1.5Frankfurt Commerzbank
Index: 940.70 down 0.20
Brussels General Index
98.83 down 0.06
Paris CAC Index: 139.2 down 0.3
Zurich SKA General: 286.0 down 0.3

CURRENCIES

Sterling: \$1.4875 down 65pts
Index: 84.4 down 0.2
DM: 3.9725
FF: 12.0450 down 0.01
Yen: 357 down 0.75Dollar
Index: 127.9 up 0.4
DM: 2.8535
NEW YORK LATEST
Sterling: \$1.4885
Dollar: DM 2.8480INTERNATIONAL
ECU: 57.0685
SDR: 702.148

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rate: 9%
Finance houses base rate: 10%
Discount market loans: week 9%
3 month interbank: 9% 9/16Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar: 9% 9/16
3 month DM: 5% 5/16
3 month FF: 14% 14/16US rates:
Bank prime rate: 11.00
Fed funds: 8%
Treasury long bond: 10 1/4-10 1/2ECU: Fixed Rate Starting
Export Finance Scheme IV
Average reference rate for
interest period August 3 to
September 6, 1983: inclusive:
9.930 per cent.

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):
am \$413.50 pm \$412.25
close \$412.50 (\$275.50)
New York latest: \$412.25
Kruggerand (per coin):
\$425-426.50 (\$284-285)
Sovereigns (new):
\$97-98 (\$64.75-65.50)
Excludes VAT

TODAY

Interim: Associate Book
Publishers, Aurora, Central
Independent Television, DRG,
Eastern Produce, Emess Light-
ing, Cecil Gee, Manders Hold-
ings, Moss Bros, Jame Neil
Holdings, Riley Leisure, Tilbury
Group, Wingate (Property In-
vestments).
Finals: Ben Bailey Construc-
tion, Home Farm Products,
Lawrie Plantation Holdings,
Mills & Allen International,
Northern Industrial Improve-
ment Trust.
Economic statistics: Overseas
Travel and Tourism (July).
Quarterly analysis of bank
advances (mid-Aug). Personal
income, expenditure and sav-
ing (second quarter). Industrial
and commercial companies
appropriation account (second
quarter).

ANNUAL MEETINGS

Aeronautical & General Instru-
ments, Great Eastern Hotel,
Liverpool Street, EC2 (noon).
Amalgamated, Distilled Pro-
ducts, Savoy Hotel, Strand,
WC2 (noon).
Furnishers, The
Courts, Central Road,
Grange, Morden (11.00).
Danae Inv Trust, 44 Blooms-
bury Square, WC1 (12.30).
Devilla (James H.), Trafford
Park, Manchester
(11.30).
Diamond Stylus, Imperial
Hotel, Llandudno (12.30).
Nova (Jersey) Knit, Connaught
Rooms, Great Queen Street,
WC2 (11.00).
Stasua Romana (British), 4
Fore Street, EC2 (noon).
Wagon Industrial Holdings,
Plough & Harrow Hotel, Bir-
mingham (11.00).

NOTEBOOK

Combined English Stores has
seen a £2.5m turnaround in its
half-year results. The group is
now pushing hard its two key
High Street chains, Faintons
and Salisbury, and expects
substantially better full-year
figures.
Investors' Notebook, page 21

Report argues change would allow heavy cut in income tax

Abolition of pension reliefs could
save £5.1 billion a year

By Graham Searjeant

The Chancellor could cut the standard rate of income tax possibly by as much as 10p in the pound from 30p to 20p by abolishing special tax reliefs, mainly on pensions, according to radical new calculations by the Inland Revenue.
The new calculations, thought to have been ordered by Mr Nigel Lawson, Chancellor of the Exchequer, show that tax reliefs on pension contributions, investment and lump sum payments alone amount to £5.1 billion a year for occupational pension schemes for the current financial year.This compares with a figure of only £1.1 billion for 1982-83 used in the Government's spending plans as calculation of the equivalent tax cost of pension reliefs.
A further £390m was then quoted as the

tax cost of relief on self-employed pensions. On the previous basis, the 1983-84 cost of occupational pension reliefs would be £1.4 billion.

The Inland Revenue stresses that the new basis of calculation is not intended to provide a model for future pensions taxation. But it is certain to sharpen the argument both to abolish special income tax reliefs in order to reduce the standard rate of income tax or to remove the massive tax distortions between different forms of saving as recommended in the Wilson report on financial institutions and the private Meade report on personal taxation, which recommended that income tax be replaced by a spending tax.

It is also likely to act as a timely reminder to the pensions industry of the true value of the privileges under which they operate and put pressure on them to conform to the Government's desire for a

better deal for those who change jobs during their careers and are heavily penalized under the occupational pensions system.

The new calculations suggest that tax relief on employers' contributions, which are paid out of pretax income, will amount to £1.1 billion this year.

Relief on employers' contributions, which are not counted as pay in employees' hands, amounts to a further £1.1 billion.

Relief on the investment income of pension funds is estimated at £2.25 billion and the exemption of lump sum payments on retirement at £650m.

Even these figures ignore the tax cost of exempting pension funds from capital gains tax, which, according to the new Inland Revenue paper, "cannot be estimated reliably".

If all these reliefs were withdrawn, pensions would be subject to massive double taxation. The Revenue estimates that pensioners will pay £1.85 billion in income tax on pension payments this year.

This is probably an underestimate of the long-term balance between reliefs on pension contributions and investment on the one hand and taxation of pension payments on the other because of the huge growth of occupational pensions in the past generation and particularly since the 1975 Act.

At present, the Inland Revenue works on its traditional principle of symmetry, whereby pension contributions and investments receive tax relief whereas pension payments attract income tax, apart from lump sum disbursements on retirement.

Inchcape disappoints City

By Philip Robinson

Inchcape
Half-year to 30.6.83
Pretax profit £24.5m (£24.3m)
Stated earnings p/p
Turnover £838.6m (£834m)
Net interim dividend 7.15p (7.15p)
Share price 298-13p Yield 8 per cent
Dividend payable

Hongkong's financial crisis yesterday brought doubts of an early profits recovery for Inchcape, the international trading group.

Inchcape, now headed by former Unilever chairman Sir David Orr, earns about 20 per cent of its pretax profit from Hongkong. The sharp fall in its currency and stock market have needed substantial government intervention.

The crisis has hit Inchcape in the middle of its second half. The company admits that the far East turned in lower profits during the first half to the end of June but points out that for profit transitions into trading, it takes the rate ruling at the year end.



Orr Hongkong crisis

rather than an average over the six months.

An Inchcape spokesman said last night: "The Hongkong dollar has some time to sort itself out before the end of this year."

For the six months to the end of June Inchcape's pretax profits were barely changed at £24.5m on

a turnover which rose from £834m to £839m. The profits are £1m better in sterling terms than would have been the case taking exchange rates at December 31, 1982.

However, some analysts were expecting a pretax figure of £28m and the Inchcape shares fell 18p to one point before rallying to close 13p lower at 298p. Even at that price some analysts feel the shares are expensive.

Mr Michael Smith, analyst at the stockbroker firm Simon & Oates said: "I was expecting full year profits of £53m, but it could be nearer £50m. I would expect those looking for £57m to start revising down their forecasts."

In the year to last December, Inchcape reported pretax profits of £55.8m. Its performance since the record year in 1977 has been patchy.

Last summer Lord Inchcape, chairman for almost 25 years, announced he was retiring. Sir David took over this year.

Puzzle over soccer club for sale

By Wayne Lister

An English League football club is for sale. The club was not named in City advertisements yesterday, merely that the directors were about to retire and were offering the club for £200,000 with agreed tax losses of £1m.

The club was disclosed as being in a "lower division". It is thought to be in the third, and also, if it is to be attractive to investors, to be situated in the south of England.

The news follows hints on the basis of Saturday's news that property developer Markes Estates has bought the Chelsea ground and intends redeveloping the site.

Most of the 48 clubs in the two lower divisions are in financial difficulty. However, Brentford, in west London, emerged as the favourite to be putting itself up for sale because it is already controlled by a property developer, Mr Martin Lange.

However, he denied the possibility, saying that he is a fan and intends the ground to remain a stadium. He added that if there

were land available in the proposed sale, "then it is the buy of the year at this price."

The second favourite was Orient in north London. But its managing director, Mr Brian Weston, also denied a sale and said that football's increasing relationship with the City would be disastrous for the club.

The share price will be going up and down with the result, it will place tremendous pressure on a team.

The Football League said it was philosophic about the growing business/football relationship, but warned teams that a property development on part of a football club site could be done only once. Any subsequent poor performance and consequential fiscal troubles would not be helped by having a ground in back to property developers.

It also warned potential investors of the antipathy of many thousands of local fans and local voters to new developments.

Conran and Octopus to form book publishers

By Andrew Connolly

Octopus Publishing Group
Half-year to 30.6.81
Pretax profit £2.2m (£1.8m)
Stated earnings 12.5p (12.7p)
Turnover £12.1m (£12.2m)
Net interim dividend 3p
Share price 428p down 10p
Dividend payable 31.10.83

Sir Terence Conran, chairman of Habitat Mothercare, has joined forces with Mr Paul Hamlyn, who launched the Octopus Publishing Group on the stock-market in April, to create a publishing company which will specialise in various aspects of modern living.

The new company, Conran Octopus, plans to launch its first titles before the end of next year and plans to distribute them through Habitat Mothercare's 550 stores as well as the book trade.

Octopus and Habitat Mothercare have put £230,000 apiece into the 50-50 joint venture. The board meets for the first time today to decide which titles to launch next year.

The first titles from the company are likely to be an extension of Habitat Mothercare's successful range of books on home design, and cookery, although later titles for mothers and teaching books for children are planned.

Octopus Publishing Company also produced its first interim results since its stock market launch. Pretax profits, which were in line with expectations, reached £2.2m, against £1.8m at the comparable stage last year.

Turnover for the six months to June 30 was up from £12.4m to £12.1m. The board has recommended an interim dividend of 3p per share. This year, Octopus expects to publish 25 million books, against 22 million in 1982.

Bank lending shows modest increase

By Peter Wilson-Smith, Banking Correspondent

The pace of bank lending accelerated in the three months to mid-August, according to new figures from the Bank of England, as industrial demand for credit recovered modestly and demand from the personal sector remained strong.

After slowing sharply to rise by only 1.25 per cent in the previous three months, bank lending to United Kingdom residents rose by 3.75 per cent or £3.25bn in the three months to mid-August. Seasonally-adjusted, lending to the private sector rose by £3.19bn.

Although demand for credit from the personal sector was still below the high levels seen last year, personal borrowing still accounted for over half the advance in the lending and was 7.5 per cent up at £1.77bn during the period.

Lending for house-buying contributed £948m of the increase - but the Bank of England said the increase was probably seasonal and remained below the fast growth in 1982.

Lending to manufacturing industry increased by a modest £231m after the sharp fall in the previous quarter but the Bank of England says the amount outstanding is still 4 per cent lower than a year ago.

Bank lending to the public sector continued to decline during

Telemetrix seeks quote

By Jonathan Clare

Telemetrix, the specialist maker of computer graphics display terminals, is to get a full quote on the Stock Exchange with a valuation of more than £37m.

The company, started in 1977 by three former Kalc employees, is forecast to make profits in the year to the end of June of £3.2m on a turnover of £12.1m - compared with profits of just £1.5m and a turnover of £5.5m last year.

The public will be offered over 5 million shares at 185p each. Most of the cash will come direct

Amex in £517m Alleghany deal

American Express has negotiated a deal with Alleghany Corporation to buy its main asset, Investors Diversified Services (IDS), for about \$773m (£517m).
Last month American Express called off its takeover of IDS and other operations belonging to Alleghany.

The takeover was widely criticised by Wall Street analysts who said American Express was paying too much.

American Express is still paying well over the \$450m book value of IDS and the new agreement excluded MSL Industries, steel company owned by Alleghany.

About \$338m of the purchase price will be paid in cash and the rest by issuing 11.5 million American Express shares compared with the 23 million which would have been issued under the original deal.

Dow falls in early trading

New York (AP-Dow Jones) - Shares were broadly lower in early trading on Wall Street yesterday with transportation issues particularly hard hit.

The Dow Jones industrial average was down by about nine points at 1,251 at midday. The transportation index, dropped 13.5 points to 569. Falling issues outnumbered advances by more than 9-to-4.

Trading continued to be moderately active. Mr Joe Feshbach, the chief technical analyst at Prudential-Bache Securities, said the sentiment indicators were improving and that the quality stocks should begin to lead market higher again. He believed that the transportation average should rise soon.

WALL STREET

AMR Corp was trading at 28 1/4, off 1 1/4, and UAL at 28 1/4, off 1/4. Delta Airlines was 32 1/4, down 1. Santa Fe 32 1/4, down 1/4. Southern Pacific 38 1/4, down 1/4. Eastern Airlines 4 1/4, down 1/4. Burlington Northern 98 1/4, off 1/4. Norfolk Southern 64 1/4, down 1/4. Northwest Air 36 1/4, down 3/4 and Union Pacific 59 1/4, up 1/4.

Texas Instruments was 113, up 1/4. International Business Machines 127 1/4, off 1/4. General Motors 74 1/4, off 1/4. Exxon 37 1/4, off 1/4. Ford 64 1/4, off 1/4. March 64 1/4, down 1/4. Standard Oil of Indiana 50 1/4, off 1/4. RCA 34, unchanged. Coca-Cola 52 1/4, off 1/4 and Seagram 36, down by 1/4.

World Bank chief pleads for more funds

'Time bomb' warning by Clausen

From Frances Williams

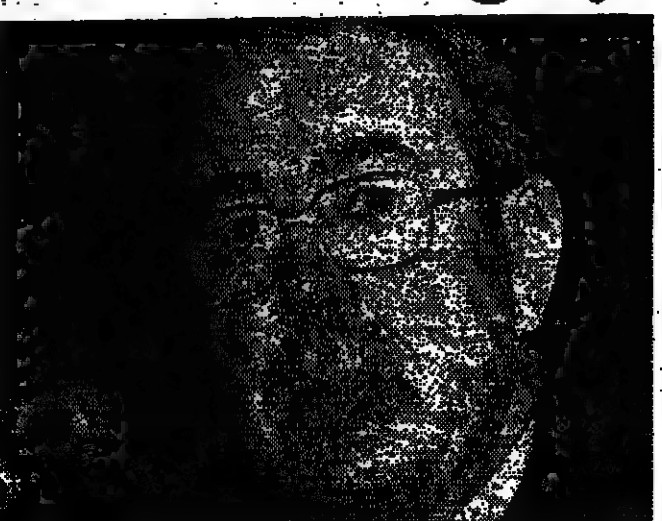
An impassioned plea for the rich countries of the world to step up the flow of financial resources to the poorest nations was launched yesterday by Mr A. W. "Tom" Clausen, President of the World Bank, in his address to ministers and bankers at the joint annual meeting of the bank and the International Monetary Fund.

Without more official development aid, and increased funds for the World Bank and its soft loan arm, the International Development Association, many poor countries face deepening poverty which threatened world social and political stability, Mr Clausen said.

"The economic distress of the poorest nations is a time bomb ticking away. We delay defusing it at our peril," he said.

Mr Clausen's unusually forceful appeal followed several days of inconclusive discussions in which the problems of the poorest countries have been pushed into the background by wrangling over IMF finances.

The World Bank has been anxious to secure agreement to a selective capital increase so that it can raise its lending capacity and, more urgently, boost the funds available to IDA, which makes loans at low interest to the very



Clausen: "Social and political stability threatened"

poorest countries which cannot borrow on private capital markets. But the US has blocked all progress by maintaining an implacably hardline stand, despite attempts by its western allies, including Britain, to induce it to shift.

The US has said that it is not prepared to increase its contribution to IDA when the seventh replenishment of funds is due to start next year, and wants it out

than \$9 billion but the refusal of the US to budge has scuppered the talks in Washington at the weekend, and no agreement is now expected before next spring, though another meeting of IDA donors will be held in Paris in November.

The Americans are also being difficult over a selective capital increase for the World Bank, which some countries (though not the United States) would increase their contributions and hence their voting shares, in line with new quotas agreed for the IMF.

The United States wants this to be the minimum necessary \$3 billion, but the World Bank and some developing countries have pressed for \$20 billion. But proposals for a compromise in the \$8 billion range, acceptable to Britain and other industrial countries is being sought by bank officials.

Mr De Larosiere said that IMF programmes made adjustment easier by ensuring a continued flow of resources including the commercial banks. But to meet the demands on it, the IMF desperately needed more cash.

He said that the agreed 50 per cent increase in quotas and loan facilities from the industrial countries was the minimum necessary.

City Editor's Comment

Struggling to meet a
£275m shortfall

With the BP issue now safely out of the way, both the stock market and the Treasury are now turning their minds to what comes next.

The better than expected result of the BP tender means that Mr Lawson has now assured himself of another £542m towards his revised £1,250m asset-sale target for this financial year. To this must be added £293m for the second tranche of Britoil share payments last April, £80m for the imminent Wyth Farm disposal and, say £50m for odds and ends.

date, this seems extremely unlikely. How then will he fill the shortfall? There are options. He could, for example, go to another part of the oil industry for help, in the form of a sale of some more North Sea licences, as happened in one form or another last year and the year before.

But the simplest and most favoured stopgap measure appears to be another dip into the Government's burgeoning portfolio of minority shareholdings in companies that have already been partly privatized.

Doubt

In order to reach the magic (though entirely artificial) figure of £1,250m, the Chancellor therefore needs another £275m. It could be less if there is some surprise lurking in the miscellaneous category of asset disposals. Clearly, nobody can say that the programme is not going according to plan.

The Chancellor still has the flotation to British Gas's offshore oil assets to come. The assets have already been hived off into a newly-formed company with the ringing name of Enterprise Oil, and the plan is to float 100 per cent of the company on the stock market in the first half of 1984.

But there is considerable doubt - acknowledged even in some parts of the Treasury - whether the flotation can be completed before the end of the financial year, as assumed in last March's White Paper on public expenditure.

The fledgling company still needs a lot of work before it can be packaged into a marketable commodity, and the possibility of further North Sea tax changes in next spring's Budget could also complicate matters.

The intriguing question is what happens if the proceeds of the oil asset sale do not come through until the 1984/5 financial year? Will the Chancellor wash his hands of the missing £275m, sure in the knowledge that the cash will be coming through a few weeks later, albeit on the wrong side of the year-end?

Given Mr Lawson's character and record to

Of the likely candidates in this field, Cable & Wireless seems the only really feasible runner, if only because the others are either too recently denationalized (eg Britoil), too small to raise the required amount (eg Associated British Ports) or too fragile at the moment in stock market terms (eg British Aerospace).

Such a course would hardly make sense. The Chancellor would be laying himself open yet again to the charge that he is merely selling off capital assets to balance his books on revenue account. There is also the slight problem that at the time of the C & W flotation two years ago, the Government pledged itself to keep a majority stake in the company.

But this already appears to have been abandoned, as the Government's holding has slipped - apparently without protest - from 50 to 45 per cent as a result of C & W's share-plus-cash purchase of a stake in the Hongkong Telephone Company earlier this year.

We have argued in his space before that the Government should adopt a consistent and well-thought-out policy for handling its minority stakes in partly privatized companies. So far no clue has appeared.

But then it seems clear that sticking to notional asset sales targets - which have the priceless advantage of ranking as negative public expenditure - is regarded as more important for proving that the Treasury means business than for the intrinsic merits of particular fund-raising exercises.

Swire Pacific Limited

Consolidated results for the six months ended
30th June 1983 and 1983 interim dividends

Results In the first half of 1983, Swire Pacific Limited has achieved a profit improvement of 117% over the same period of 1982. The consolidated results for the six months ended 30th June 1983 - unaudited - were:

	Six months ended 30th June	Year ended 31st December
	1983	1982
	HK\$m	HK\$m
Turnover	4,529.7	3,937.2
Operating profit	805.1	457.8
Interest charges - net	145.2	182.3
Net operating profit	660.9	275.5
Share of profits of associated companies	26.7	51.0
Profit before taxation	687.6	326.5
Taxation	102.3	96.4
Profit after taxation	585.3	230.1
Minority interests	150.2	79.2
Profit attributable to shareholders	435.1	200.9
Earnings per share:		
'A' shares	121.2c	57.2c
'B' shares	24.2c	11.4c
	1983	1982
	Interim	Interim
	Final	Total
Dividends per share:		
'A' shares	31.0c	24.0c
'B' shares	6.2c	4.8c
	52.0c	75.0c
	10.4c	15.2c

Interim dividends The directors of Swire Pacific Limited have today declared interim dividends for 1983 of 31.0c per 'A' share and 6.2c per 'B' share.

The interim dividends are payable on 22nd November 1983 to shareholders on the register at the close of business on 21st October 1983; the share registers will be closed from 10th October 1983 to 21st October 1983, both dates inclusive.

In accordance with Article 132(a) of the Company's Articles of Association, the directors have resolved that the interim dividends will be satisfied partly in the form of an issue of additional shares by way of scrip dividends and partly by minimum cash dividends of 1.0c per 'A' share and 0.2c per 'B' share, the minimum cash dividends being paid in order to ensure that the shares of the Company continue to be Authorised Investments for the purpose of the Trustee Ordinance of Hong Kong; but that shareholders will be given the option of receiving their interim dividends in cash in place of or all of such scrip dividends. Full details of the scrip dividend procedures will be given in a circular which will accompany the complete Interim Report to be sent to shareholders on 3rd October 1983.

Prospects The results for the second half of 1983 should continue at satisfactory levels. Cathay Pacific Airways' strong operating results should be sustained and I am forecasting a year-end result for the airline substantially in excess of that achieved in 1982. In addition, the property markets in which the property division operates are expected to continue to show signs of improvement and a satisfactory contribution from that division should be achieved for the whole of 1983 against a background of difficult trading conditions. I do not expect Swire Pacific's profits for the whole of 1983 to show the same rate of increase as achieved in the first half year but I do expect them to be significantly higher than those for 1982, and the final dividends to be recommended for the year should be at least double the interim dividends.

Hong Kong, 23rd September 1983

D R Y Black

Chairman

Swire Pacific Limited

The Swire Group

Swire House, Hong Kong.

MARKET REPORT by Michael Clark

Spanish insolvency hits shares

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings begin, Sept 19, Dealings end, Sept 30, Contango Day, Oct 3, Settlement Day, Oct 10.

The smell of burnt fingers wafted around the market yesterday sending share prices reeling. A Panamanian subsidiary of the Spanish banking group C & R Pastor has become involved and is unlikely to be able to meet its commitments after massive over dealing of shares on the London stock market.

The debts could be as high as \$55m (£33.4m) and may have serious repercussions for London firms who handled Pastor's business in London.

Pastor's Panamanian subsidiary specialized in arbitrage business and having found itself sitting on large losses dealt "cash and new" carrying over its losses into the next account. Unfortunately with the market continuing to drift ahead of the BP sale the losses merely grew.

The FT Index reflected the nervousness felt around the market closing 8.5 down at 694.0. Blue chips were worst affected with Distillers falling 4p to 212p. GKN 3p to 166p. BTR 8p to 542p. Glaxo 10p to 780p. Grand Metropolitan 7p to 320p and Lucas Industries 3p to 150p.

First thing on the weak market, but later recovered to close only 3p down at 198p, after 194p.

Bid speculation in Britannia Arrow built up to a crescendo yesterday with the shares climbing 5p to a high of 90p. Word in the market suggests a parcel of about 15pc of the shares has changed hands outside the market but this was being discounted by close observers. Arthur Knight Ltd has reported to have considered a consortium bid for the group.

million new shares have now changed hands in the first two days of trading.

News that the Hongkong Government was being forced to rescue one of the colony's local banks continued to unnerve the financial markets out in the Far East. A statement said the government will take over the

business of Hang Lung Standard Chartered last night confirmed it acted as a dealer for Hang Lung but said its commitments would be taken up in full by the Hongkong Government. Nevertheless, Standard still fell 15p to 422p.

A consortium headed by N. G. Shipping and Michael Davies has increased its holding in Milford Dock. It has bought an extra 312,000 and now owns a total of 778,000 ordinary shares or 24.95 per cent of the total. The consortium has also obtained an option to buy an extra 153,000

shares which, if exercised will take its stake to 29.85 per cent.

Gibraltar-based Seafarh Investments has increased its holding in Alkins Bros, the Hosiery group, and now owns 625,000 shares, or 13.26 per cent of the total. Shares

approach which might lead to an offer being made for the company. At present leading shareholders include Sun Life Assurance with 14.8 per cent of the share, Commercial Union with 8.1 per cent and London & Manchester Assurance with 5.5 per cent. The board says it will keep shareholders informed.

Mr Robert Maxwell, chairman of BPCC never gives up easily. Yesterday he bought a further 281,000 shares in John Waddington, the board games group, which he narrowly missed winning control of in a fiercely contested takeover battle recently. BPCC and Pengamon Press, the private arm of the Maxwell empire, now control 1.52 million shares, or 24.4 per cent of the total. Between them, however, Mr Maxwell must now wait a year before renewing his assault on the beleaguered Waddington, unchanged at 263p.

of Alkins Bros rose 1p to 82p on the news. Seafarh has other investments in United Kingdom publicly quoted companies and recently increased its stake in GFA Group, the greyhound racing group, to 10.33 per cent.

Shares of the Moorside Trust rose 4p to a new high of 98p following an announcement from the board it had received an



RECENT ISSUES

Company	Price
A & M Hire 10p Ord (a)	100
Amalgamated 25p Ord (115a)	100
BP 25p Ord (437a)	100
City 10p Ord (1a)	100
DPCE Holdings 5p Ord (1a)	100
Flint 10p Ord (1a)	100
Frederick 10p Ord (1a)	100
Glaxo 10p Ord (1a)	100
Grand Metropolitan 7p Ord (1a)	100
ICI 10p Ord (1a)	100
John Waddington 10p Ord (1a)	100
Lucas Industries 3p Ord (1a)	100
Midland 10p Ord (1a)	100
Ro-Ro 10p Ord (1a)	100
SCS 10p Ord (1a)	100
Southern Commercial 10p Ord (1a)	100
Technology for Business 10p Ord (1a)	100
Thermal Scientific 25p Ord (1a)	100

These prices in parentheses a United Securities. * by tender.

BRITISH FUNDS

Company	Price
1984 10p	100
1985 10p	100
1986 10p	100
1987 10p	100
1988 10p	100
1989 10p	100
1990 10p	100
1991 10p	100
1992 10p	100
1993 10p	100
1994 10p	100
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2004 10p	100
2005 10p	100
2006 10p	100
2007 10p	100
2008 10p	100
2009 10p	100
2010 10p	100

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN

Company	Price
1984 10p	100
1985 10p	100
1986 10p	100
1987 10p	100
1988 10p	100
1989 10p	100
1990 10p	100
1991 10p	100
1992 10p	100
1993 10p	100
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2003 10p	100
2004 10p	100
2005 10p	100
2006 10p	100
2007 10p	100
2008 10p	100
2009 10p	100
2010 10p	100

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

Company	Price
1984 10p	100
1985 10p	100
1986 10p	100
1987 10p	100
1988 10p	100
1989 10p	100
1990 10p	100
1991 10p	100
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2004 10p	100
2005 10p	100
2006 10p	100
2007 10p	100
2008 10p	100
2009 10p	100
2010 10p	100

BANKS AND DISCOUNTS

Company	Price
1984 10p	100
1985 10p	100
1986 10p	100
1987 10p	100
1988 10p	100
1989 10p	100
1990 10p	100
1991 10p	100
1992 10p	100
1993 10p	100
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2004 10p	100
2005 10p	100
2006 10p	100
2007 10p	100
2008 10p	100
2009 10p	100
2010 10p	100

BREWERS AND DISTILLERS

Company	Price
1984 10p	100
1985 10p	100
1986 10p	100
1987 10p	100
1988 10p	100
1989 10p	100
1990 10p	100
1991 10p	100
1992 10p	100
1993 10p	100
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2004 10p	100
2005 10p	100
2006 10p	100
2007 10p	100
2008 10p	100
2009 10p	100
2010 10p	100

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

Company	Price
1984 10p	100
1985 10p	100
1986 10p	100
1987 10p	100
1988 10p	100
1989 10p	100
1990 10p	100
1991 10p	100
1992 10p	100
1993 10p	100
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2004 10p	100
2005 10p	100
2006 10p	100
2007 10p	100
2008 10p	100
2009 10p	100
2010 10p	100

A-B

Company	Price
1984 10p	100
1985 10p	100
1986 10p	100
1987 10p	100
1988 10p	100
1989 10p	100
1990 10p	100
1991 10p	100
1992 10p	100
1993 10p	100
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2003 10p	100
2004 10p	100
2005 10p	100
2006 10p	100
2007 10p	100
2008 10p	100
2009 10p	100
2010 10p	100

A-B

Company	Price
1984 10p	100
1985 10p	100
1986 10p	100
1987 10p	100
1988 10p	100
1989 10p	100
1990 10p	100
1991 10p	100
1992 10p	100
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2003 10p	100
2004 10p	100
2005 10p	100
2006 10p	100
2007 10p	100
2008 10p	100
2009 10p	100
2010 10p	100

Sterling: Spot and Forward

Market rates	1 month	3 months	6 months	12 months
New York	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860
London	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860
Frankfurt	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860
Paris	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860
Geneva	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860
Basel	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860
Brussels	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860
Amsterdam	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860
Stockholm	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860
Copenhagen	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860
Helsinki	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860
Oslo	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860
Stockholm	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860
Copenhagen	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860
Helsinki	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860
Oslo	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860

Effective exchange rate compared to 1975 was down 8.2 at 84.1.

Money Market

Market rates	1 month	3 months	6 months	12 months
New York	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860
London	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860
Frankfurt	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860
Paris	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860
Geneva	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860
Basel	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860
Brussels	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860
Amsterdam	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860
Stockholm	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860
Copenhagen	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860
Helsinki	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860
Oslo	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860
Stockholm	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860
Copenhagen	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860
Helsinki	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860
Oslo	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860	1.4850-1.4860

Other Markets

Australia	1.6290-1.6300
Canada	1.5200-1.5210
Denmark	1.6420-1.6430
Finland	138.40-140.00
France	15.40-15.75
Germany	1.4385-1.4395
Holland	1.5315-1.5345
Italy	219.00-240.00
Japan	231.00-239.00
Switzerland	1.5245-1.5265
United Arab Emirates	2.0125-2.2275
Singapore	1.6430-1.6440
South Africa	

Dollar Spot Rates	
Ireland	1.1740-1.1750
Canada	1.2127-1.2137
Belgium	2.0075-2.0085
Netherlands	1.9530-1.9700
Sweden	2.0775-2.0800
West Germany	152.00-154.00
Spain	152.00-153.00
Portugal	100.00-106.00
Austria	7.3000-7.4000
France	8.0320-8.0350
Sweden	7.8870-7.8900
Switzerland	232.00-233.00
Australia	16.80-16.90

Brent Chemicals, the specialist company which supplies the automotive, food, brewing and aerospace industries, yesterday reported a 17 per cent increase in profits to £1.9m for the half-year to June 30, compared with the same period last year.

Brent Chemicals, the specialist company which supplies the automotive, food, brewing and aerospace industries, yesterday reported a 17 per cent increase in profits to £1.9m for the half-year to June 30, compared with the same period last year.

Much of the improvement in profits came from a turnaround in Brest Chemicals Corporation in the U.S. Losses of £200,000 at the same stage last year have been turned into a modest trading profit at Brest and further progress is expected in the second half of the year.

WALL S

	20	21	
AMF Inc	15%	15%	Fat Farm Corp
AMR	20%	20%	Ford
Allied Chem	57%	57%	GAF Corp
Allied Resour	51%	51%	GTE Corp

Allis Chalmers	18%	18%	Gen Dynamic
Alcoa	46%	45%	Gen Electric
Amalgam Inc	27%	27%	Gen Foods
American News	31%	31%	Gen Mills
Am Brands	35%	37%	Gen Motors
Am Broadcast	22%	22%	Gen Pub Aff

Am Can	40%	37%	Gen Tire
Am Cyanamid	40%	40%	Genaco
Am Elec Power	18%	18%	Georgia Inst
Am Home	40%	40%	Gerry Oil
Am Motors	7%	8%	Gillette
Am Natl Tel	4%	4%	Goodrich

In the second of our series, John Lawless looks at Britain's fight to tap the £30bn world telephone market

Turning point to success for System X

There are two legends about the worldwide telecommunications industry.

The first concerns a Kansas City undertaker who was so fed up with calls being directed to a competitor's funeral parlour - by the competitor's wife who worked at the local telephone exchange - that he invented the world's first automatic call-switching device.

The other is that after more than 15 years of development, by 1,000 engineers and at a cost of £275m, Britain's third generation electronic telephone network, System X, is a commercial failure.

The first is true - and Mr Almon B. Strowger's anti-body snatching equipment is, more than 80 years on, still used in 4,202 of Britain's 6,598 local exchanges.

The second is not. Proof, however, will have to wait. By the exporter's harsh creed, "the only success is an order that is signed, sealed, delivered and paid for".

British Telecom can talk for days about the amazing benefits of the digital national network it has begun to install, with initial equipment orders of £150m to be added to twice a year.

By 1986, 30 main centres will be linked by digital transmission, with 80 trunk exchanges in place two years later. The City of London will be the first to be blessed with the many, and often business-applicable, add-on services under a pilot scheme next year.

But the only thing the manufacturers, Plessey and GEC, cannot add is the name of their first important overseas buyer of System X.

That moment, though, may come in as little as two weeks' time.

The manufacturers refuse to be drawn about their immediate sales prospects. The industry, however, is buzzing with the sort of noises which digital systems are

supposed to eliminate. A Middle East customer, it is said, is close to a decision.

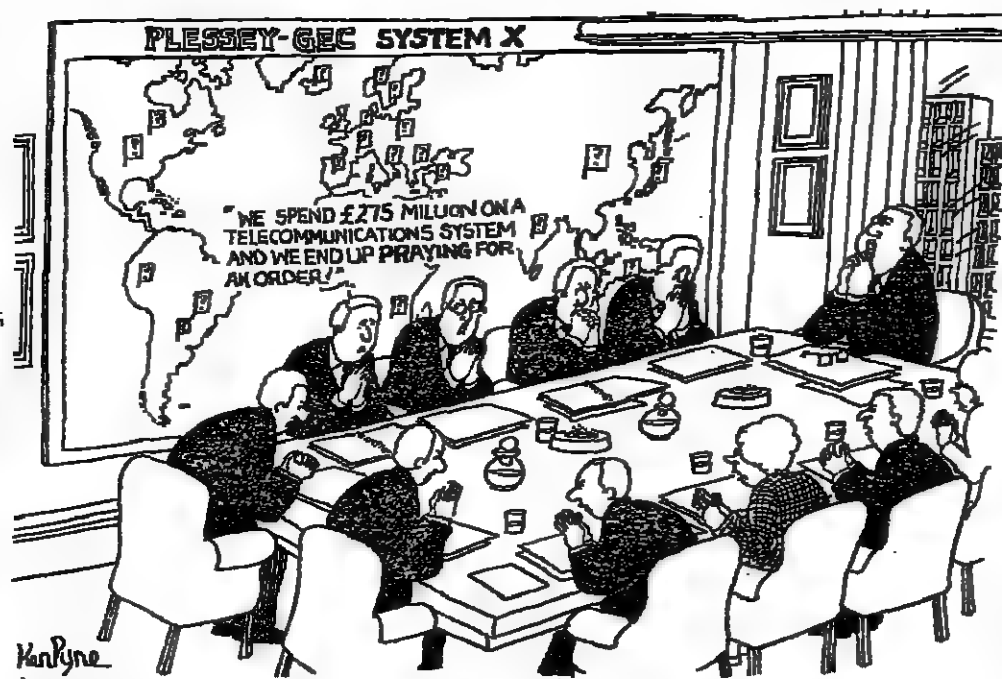
The excitement of business insiders is more easily understood if they are likened to zoo-keepers awaiting the birth of an animal which has managed to combine the rarity of the panda with the pregnancy of an elephant: orders for digital networks have been few, and follow tendering periods of up to three years.

Whether System X gets the next order or not, the noticeable thing about senior management in the companies involved is that they are not chewing crossed fingers. They maintain that, within a very short period, their chances of success will improve dramatically.

System X was developed jointly by British Telecom, Plessey, GEC and Standard Telephones, which later dropped out. A year ago, development collaboration ended, leaving the two manufacturers as rivals not only for BT's business, but to grab a share for Britain of a highly competitive £30bn a year market to bring the world into the new telephone-based electronic age.

The heart of this competition is in countries which do not have their own manufacturers. The frustration in the System X camp is not so much over the "no sales" talks as over the tantalising dream of success. "There are 400 million telephones in the world", says Mr Eric Clark, chief executive of Plessey Communications. "The orders placed so far for systems which can compete with System X amount to six or seven million. That means there is more than 90 per cent of today's market still to go - and it is growing and growing."

The two deals for which System X has been short-listed during the recent past, in China and India, carried demands that the system must offer operational evidence



of a working 5,000 line exchange.

British Telecom has so far installed 3,500 lines, but will have reached the magic 5,000 mark by next spring. Thus, one of the most important reasons why competitors have won so far is simple: product availability.

Most have got there. British telecommunications specialists insist, by taking a different route: mostly by developing less advanced and not fully digitalized systems, using that technique for transmission, but adapting analog exchange equipment to work on computer controls.

That suggests that System X is technologically ahead, but its producers acknowledge that the opposition is scurrying to catch up. How long System X will, therefore, be able to claim an edge, even when it has demon-

strable product availability, is anyone's guess.

The other view must be that, with BT paying development costs to produce a system for the advanced British market, it was not compatible with the needs of Third World buyers, who have been most often, identified as its best potential customers. It is repeatedly accused of being late.

"It would have been nice had it been earlier," Mr Richard Reynolds, GEC Telecommunications managing director, says, "given the demand that has now emerged. Everybody knew that the world was going to go digital, but you would have to be a genius to guess the exact point when it becomes economically viable for a country to buy."

"System X is not a can of beans. Telecommunications is what we are selling, not a one-off

product, and it demands a co-ordinated effort to create an environment in which the customer wants to buy."

But what about the double-edged adjective that is regularly used? "This Concorde thing is rubbish," said a renownedly-mild Mr John Alvey, BT's engineer-in-chief.

"We could not have achieved the same thing by going out to international tender. There is nothing better than System X, and every technical decision that was taken throughout the development phase was made with the needs of world markets very much in mind."

Yet every time a digital system is offered to a customer, the need to tailor it to individual requirements is still immense. "The technical documents involved in our Indian bid stacked into

volumes this long," explains Mr Reynolds, stretching his hands far apart, like the fisherman-with-the-one-that-got-away.

The reason why two orders slipped away to France with one for a £150m factory, contains many of the elements of what Mr Clark describes as "the reality of selling" in today's highly-competitive world markets.

Everyone in the industry had heard that CIT-Alcatel was never really in the bidding. It was certainly not in the last three at the technical evaluation stage.

Telephone calls from M. Mitterrand the French President, to Mrs Indira Gandhi have been rumoured and as one European trade official, who was closely involved, observes: "India bought a digital telecommunications system the same time as it secured a package for jet fighters and nuclear collaboration - and that was no coincidence."

The fact that India had always said that it wanted two technologies, to ensure that it did not become dependent on one supplier, increased the pain of the second French order - but left the belief that the market has not been closed.

Messrs Clark, Reynolds and Alvey accompanied Mr Kenneth Baker, the Industry and Information Technology Minister, to India last month, to talk about a range of telecommunications proposals. "We have an on-going dialogue with India," says Mr Reynolds.

China was much heart-warming for the British. "We could have sold there had System X been up and running in significant quantities in Britain, says Mr Clark emphatically.

The order, for just \$11m, went to L M Ericsson, of Sweden, for an exchange in Guangdong - a province with an urgent need to build up its communications, having soaked up hundreds of the foreign joint venture factories.

"They were looking for evidence of a 5,000-line, fully-digitalized exchange in operation," adds Mr Clark. "The fact that they hesitated for at least a year was a measure of the want-factor they had for System X technology."

In the end, industry sources believe, they paid at least 25 per cent more than the System X price.

Tomorrow:
Davy Corporation

Financial notes

Why forfait notes are big business

One of the main problems to emerge from the international debt crisis has been how leading manufacturers can continue exporting to those countries with little or no hard currency or a poor credit rating.

Ironically, solving these problems has fallen upon those trade financing sectors of the same banks whose international loan departments are battling to sort out the massive rescheduling game now being played.

The age-old barter system has assumed new significance while a "treasure trove" of goods is taking place in counter-purchasing deals and a little known loan-paper market called a forfait, or forfeiture note.

Forfait notes came into prominence as a trade tool in the late 1960s through West Germany's trade with the Eastern block. Vienna became the primary market, while Switzerland and London have since become prominent.

The international debt crisis has pushed this form of trade financing to the fore and over the last two years the market in the paper has virtually doubled to an estimated £3,000m a year.

Midland Bank recently established Midland Aval, to specialize in the sector, where its spokesman, Mr Ian Guild, said: "Every penny advanced is for trade. It takes us away from syndicated loans where the funds seem to drop into one big bottomless hole."

He pointed out that in the current round of rescheduling, forfeiture notes are being repaid and are not included in any deferment - even by countries like Brazil, Mexico, Argentina and Poland.

Mr Nigel Hudson is general manager of the London branch of Creditanstalt, Austria's biggest company and biggest bank, which handles 40 per cent of Austria's export financing.

He says: "There is a big difference in a country allowing a default on a note covering the import of goods supporting a basic industry than allowing a default on an internationally syndicated loan."

A forfait note is basically a promissory note issued by an importer who spreads his payment over several years - usually between three and five

years - and includes in that note an interest payment. A central bank will guarantee it, so there are legally enforceable rights. The note is then sold by the exporter to its bank which pays the debt, minus the interest. The note is then discounted and sold into a secondary market, where a hard currency backing, where investors will ride the yield curve. The investor, however, has no recourse to the bank from whom he bought the note, so the investor carries the country-default risk.

According to Mr Hudson, it is an easy tool to use and pays the exporter much more quickly than, say, the Export Credit Guarantee Department.

For those countries where even that form of note is not accepted, barter and counter-purchasing are growing as trade financing tools.

A recent export of British chemicals to Indonesia was paid for by the proceeds from the European sale of Indonesian wood. All well and good, if a country has domestically produced commodities to trade.

For Third World countries, where even their commodities, if any, have limited attractions, the counter-purchasing system has taken on new significance.

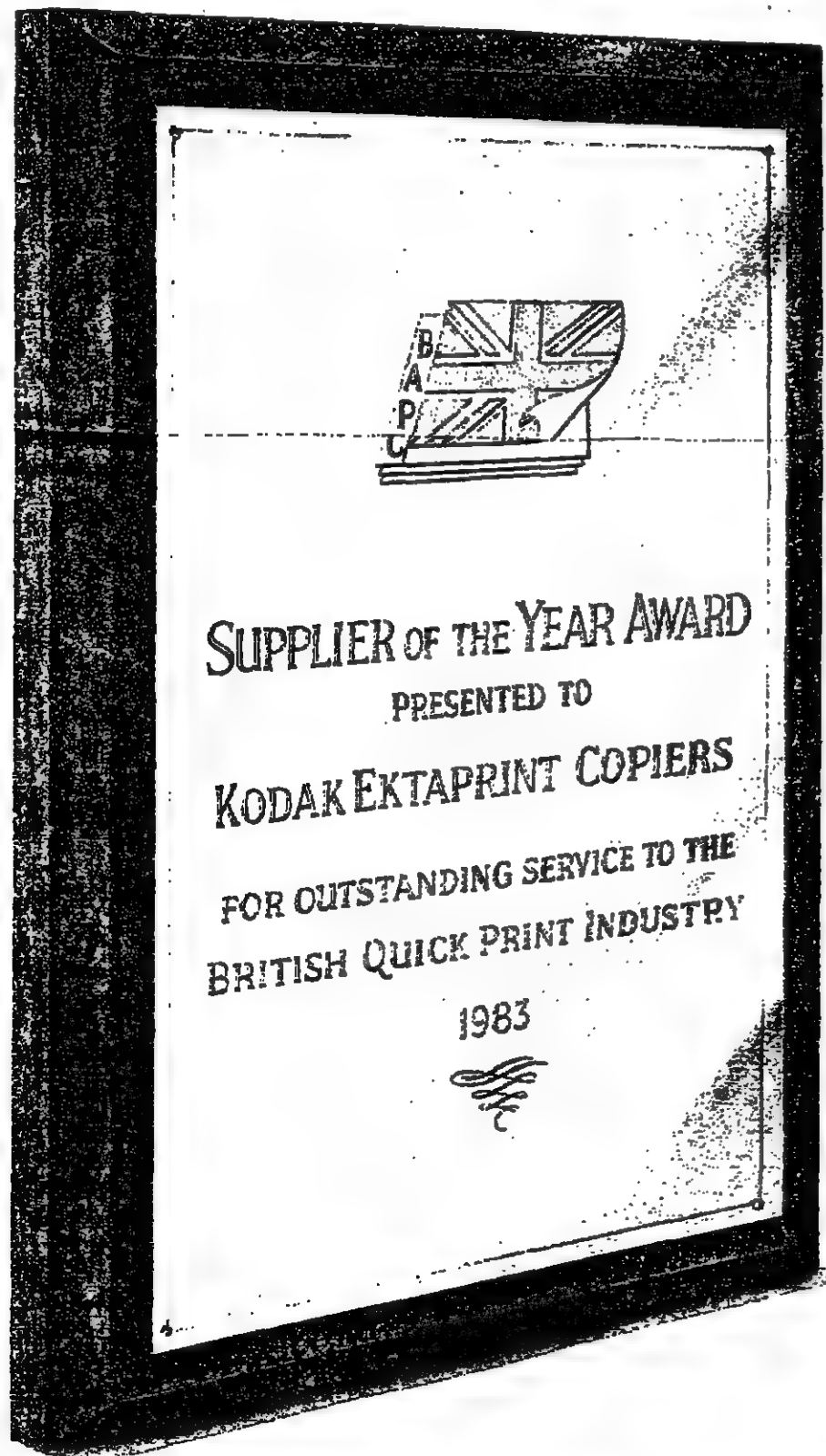
This involves a specialized company - Creditanstalt's is AWI, a London-based subsidiary that deals with Britain's accepting houses and America's big banks like Chase Manhattan - acting as a middle-man for the exchange of goods.

This system satisfies these exporters which cannot or do not want to find a market for goods offered in exchange. The goods do not have to be actually produced. They can be left over from another, entirely different transaction.

For instance, AWI sold Jamaican aluminium to pay for the import of a large order of Land Rovers. AWI's job is to sell the goods and work out a price with the exporter.

"All the systems show tremendous growth," Mr Hudson added. "But they do not counter risks. If you know what you are doing, however, they can certainly be less risky than a straight bank loan."

Wayne Lintott



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Mackay Carpets

Manufacturers of Durham Carpets

Mr John Mackay, Chairman, this week reopened the Company's London showroom and design complex at Roman House, Wood Street, which has been refurbished to celebrate its 25th anniversary. New design ranges for hotels and public houses are amongst the many innovative items on display which include examples of the company's recent introduction of specialised tufted products being marketed by its subsidiary Hugh Mackay Special Products Limited.

Interim Report 1983

	Six months to 30th June 1983	Six months to 30th June 1982
Group turnover	£5,305,000	£4,505,000
Trading profit before tax	£102,000	(£69,000)
Interim dividend - per share	1.40p	1.40p

Statement by the Chairman

Margins remain small, but it is encouraging to see the turnaround in trading profit compared with the first half of 1982.

Although present trading conditions can hardly be termed "boom" the recent volume of enquiries remains encouraging and the current order book gives hope that the momentum will be sustained or indeed improved in the second half. This would repeat the trading cycle of the previous years.

Hugh Mackay plc, Dragon Lane, Durham City DH1 2RX

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Friday	Heathrow - Anchorage - Tokyo - Osaka	Saturday
Saturday	Heathrow - Anchorage - Tokyo - Osaka	Sunday
Sunday	Heathrow - Anchorage - Tokyo - Osaka	Monday
Monday	Heathrow - Moscow - Tokyo - Osaka	Tuesday
Tuesday	Heathrow - Anchorage - Tokyo - Osaka	Wednesday
Wednesday	Heathrow - Anchorage - Tokyo - Osaka	Thursday
Thursday	Heathrow - Copenhagen - Anchorage - Tokyo - Osaka	Friday

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JAPAN AIR LINES

YACHTING

Lexcen unveils secrets of that superior keel

From Barry Pickthall, Newport, Rhode Island

The Australian victory in the seventh and final deciding race for the America's Cup against the American defender 12-metre, Liberty, out on Rhode Island Sound on Monday, can be attributed to one man - Ben Lexcen.

It was the brilliance of his 12-metre design that finally broke the 132-year dominance of the Americans in the field of yacht design and technology. For Australia II, Alan Bond's radical wing-keel challenger, held such a speed advantage over the American yacht that her crew were able to make the most basic blunders - and still win.

The most dramatic illustration of this came in the last race when the Australians recovered from an eight-second deficit at the start to pull out a four-boat-length lead over the first boat. Her crew, skippered by John Bertrand, then broke the cardinal rule of match racing by failing to cover their rivals, preferring to tack back onto the favourable wind shift. They paid the price, for Liberty, skippered by Dennis Conner, one of the world's most successful match race exponents, was able to gain the best of the breeze out on the port side of the course and turn the deficit into a six-length lead at the first weather mark.

The Americans then extended this advantage to round the fourth mark 57 seconds ahead. Against any other 12-metre, this margin would have assured Conner of an easy victory, but not against the Ben Lexcen-designed Australia II. Lulled, perhaps, by a false sense of security this lead presented, the American failed to cover the faster Australian yacht, a mistake Conner will doubtless have nightmares about for years to come: for the Australians played the shifts out to the east of the run line of this 4.5-mile-square run to pull back into the lead.

Full realization that the Australians were getting the upper hand came slowly as the two yachts continued down the course on opposite gybes. Liberty crossed her own path, gybing several times in an ill-fated attempt to find a stronger breeze, while Australia II,



The jubilant team in Australia II accept the applause as mould-breaking heroes.

RUGBY UNION Injury likely to rule out Irvine

By David Hands
Rugby Correspondent

The Barbarians have included Andy Irvine in a strong Scottish contingent for their game against Newport at Rodney Parade next Tuesday, but it seems most unlikely that the former Scotland full back will be able to play. He tore a thigh muscle playing for Heriot's FP against Hawick on Saturday, and is expected to be out of rugby for several weeks, long enough to prevent his playing for Edinburgh against New Zealanders on October 25.

The man who shares with Irvine the record number (51) of Scottish caps, Jim Renwick, is not playing because of a long standing knee complaint, while Roger Baird, another Barbarian at Newport, has moved from his Scotland and Lions place on the wing to play for his club, Kelso at stand off half.

Bob Hesford, Bristol's number eight is another player acquainted with different positions. The Barbarians played him at lock against Cornwall last week, and have picked him there against Newport, though he may get less change out of the Newport line-out jumpers than he did against the Cornish.

The omission of the word 'not' in the first paragraph of my story yesterday concerning David Lord, and his proposed professional tournament made it appear that Mr Lord might try to dissipate the scepticism which surrounds his project. He has always made it clear



Irvine: tore a thigh muscle in last game.

Bond, a man of his word

On a spring morning in 1970 at a ship building yard in Mamaroneck, New York, Alan Bond of Australia, and the crew from his yacht... Apollo, spotted an unusual yacht and climbed aboard to inspect her. She was the newly-launched Valiant, a 12 metre, in which all the winches were below deck, and which had been built for the defence of the America's Cup that summer.

Bond, who had never seen a 12 metre before, was fascinated by it and he turned to Ben Lexcen, Apollo's designer, and said: "I want you to design me a boat like that. I am going to win that Cup." That was 13 years and four challenges ago, and after more than \$10m (£1.1m) had been spent Bond achieved his ambition of being the first challenger to defeat the United States.

ATHLETICS

'Horror show' of drugs

New York (AP) - The image of the all-American sports hero is being blurred by the frequent disclosure of drug and alcohol abuse among a number of the nation's top professional athletes.

Professional football, baseball and basketball - the country's three most popular spectator sports - have been shaken in the past few years by arrests and convictions on drug charges, as well as by news of athletes entering drug and alcohol rehabilitation clinics.

Don Reese, who spent a year in jail for selling cocaine to an undercover agent while a member of the Miami Dolphins, shocked the NFL last year when he wrote in a Sports Illustrated article that cocaine was corrupting the league.

"Cocaine can be found in quantity throughout the NFL," Reese wrote. "It's pushed on players, often from the edge of the practice field. Sometimes it's pushed by players. Prominent players."

He described his years with the New Orleans Saints as a "horror show." Players snorted coke in the locker room before games and again at halftime, and stayed up all hours of the night roaming the streets to get more stuff.

BOXING

Rival creeps up on pool



The eyes have it: Charlie Magri concentrates on the photographer at the weigh-in for last night's defence of his world flyweight title, while his challenger, Frank Cedeno, of the Philippines, measures up his man. At 7 stone 13 1/2 lb Magri was 1/2 lb heavier than his rival.

Strong reaction to runners from S Africa

By Pat Butcher

The International Amateur Athletic Federation tried to clarify their position yesterday on the South African runners whose participation in the London to Brighton race on Sunday has provoked a strong reaction from the Anti-Apartheid movement and the South African Non-Racial Olympic Committee (SANROC).

A press release from the IAAF outlined their suspension of South Africa in 1976, and pointed out that there were certain exceptions for individual South Africans living abroad. But John Holt, general secretary of IAAF maintained, that his letter last March to the organizers of the London to Brighton race "made it very clear that those exceptions were for domestic competition."

The London to Brighton is an international race, and therefore South Africans were ineligible to participate. Holt said that the race organizers who have been asked to clarify their position "who have finished second in the race for the last two years, is such a case."

Not should South Africans with British passports, like Bruce Fordyce, who has won the race for the last three times, compete for his South African club, The Road Runners Club, who organize the race, will be told to be more careful in the future.

Sam Ramsamy, of SANROC, however, intends to pursue the matter.

SNOOKER

Rival creeps up on pool

The World Professional Billiards and Snooker Association intends to run a 23-man major tournament in Los Angeles next June. The game is hardly known in the United States, where the main cue sport is pool, but last month Steve Davis, the world champion, and Terry Griffiths, the United Kingdom titleholder, drew a two-night snooker and pool challenge 6-6 against two leading Americans, Jim Remy and Mike Sigel, on a covered ice rink in Dallas, Texas.

The sum the WPBSA are prepared to put into the venture will not be known for several weeks, nor is it clear how much income can be generated through television, sponsorship and other support. However, the professional governing body has substantial reserves of cash largely from its domestic television contracts, and overseas development, a hitherto untapped field, was one of his specific responsibilities given to Paul Hatherell, of Bristol, when he was appointed joint managing director of WPBSA Promotions.

FOR THE RECORD

AMERICAN FOOTBALL
NATIONAL LEAGUE: New York Giants 27, Green Bay Packers 3.

BASEBALL
AMERICAN LEAGUE: Cleveland Indians 7, New York Yankees 6; Toronto Blue Jays 3, California Angels 2; Kansas City Royals 6, Seattle Mariners 3.

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Philadelphia Phillies 8, Chicago Cubs 2; Atlanta Braves 5, San Francisco Giants 3; St. Louis Cardinals 5, Montreal Expos 4; Houston Astros 5, Oakland Athletics 3; Los Angeles Dodgers 12, Cincinnati Reds 7.

CRICKET: India, precariously placed on 37 for two before yesterday's rest day, need 101 runs to avoid the follow-on when the second Test match against Pakistan resumes today. Gavaskar, and Amarnath are the men out, but with a batting order that has Kirmani, who has scored a test hundred, at No. 10 and the pitch looking its early spite, the target looks well within India's reach.

SCORES: Pakistan 337, Masim Raja 125, and Inzamam-ul-Haq 80; India 37 for 2.

IN BRIEF

RUGBY LEAGUE: The winner of the John Player Special Trophy This season will receive £10,000 out of record prize money of £44,500, and the sponsors are to pay £15,500 to the League's development fund. The four draws for the 13th year of the competition will be shown on BBC at around 8.20 am starting on October 11, and the final will be on January 14.

Authorized Units & Insurance Funds			
Unit Name	Current Price	Previous Price	% Change
1. American Mutual Fund	12.50	12.40	0.81
2. British American Fund	15.20	15.10	0.66
3. Canadian Fund	18.70	18.60	0.54
4. European Fund	22.10	22.00	0.45
5. Japanese Fund	25.30	25.20	0.39
6. Latin American Fund	28.90	28.80	0.35
7. Middle East Fund	32.40	32.30	0.31
8. North American Fund	35.80	35.70	0.28
9. Pacific Fund	39.20	39.10	0.26
10. South American Fund	42.60	42.50	0.23
11. Swiss Fund	46.10	46.00	0.22
12. United States Fund	49.50	49.40	0.20
13. World Fund	53.00	52.90	0.19
14. Asian Fund	56.40	56.30	0.18
15. European Fund	59.80	59.70	0.17
16. Japanese Fund	63.20	63.10	0.16
17. Latin American Fund	66.60	66.50	0.15
18. Middle East Fund	70.00	69.90	0.14
19. North American Fund	73.40	73.30	0.14
20. Pacific Fund	76.80	76.70	0.13
21. South American Fund	80.20	80.10	0.12
22. Swiss Fund	83.60	83.50	0.12
23. United States Fund	87.00	86.90	0.11
24. World Fund	90.40	90.30	0.11
25. Asian Fund	93.80	93.70	0.10
26. European Fund	97.20	97.10	0.10
27. Japanese Fund	100.60	100.50	0.09
28. Latin American Fund	104.00	103.90	0.09
29. Middle East Fund	107.40	107.30	0.09
30. North American Fund	110.80	110.70	0.08
31. Pacific Fund	114.20	114.10	0.08
32. South American Fund	117.60	117.50	0.08
33. Swiss Fund	121.00	120.90	0.07
34. United States Fund	124.40	124.30	0.07
35. World Fund	127.80	127.70	0.07
36. Asian Fund	131.20	131.10	0.06
37. European Fund	134.60	134.50	0.06
38. Japanese Fund	138.00	137.90	0.06
39. Latin American Fund	141.40	141.30	0.05
40. Middle East Fund	144.80	144.70	0.05
41. North American Fund	148.20	148.10	0.05
42. Pacific Fund	151.60	151.50	0.05
43. South American Fund	155.00	154.90	0.04
44. Swiss Fund	158.40	158.30	0.04
45. United States Fund	161.80	161.70	0.04
46. World Fund	165.20	165.10	0.04
47. Asian Fund	168.60	168.50	0.03
48. European Fund	172.00	171.90	0.03
49. Japanese Fund	175.40	175.30	0.03
50. Latin American Fund	178.80	178.70	0.03
51. Middle East Fund	182.20	182.10	0.02
52. North American Fund	185.60	185.50	0.02
53. Pacific Fund	189.00	188.90	0.02
54. South American Fund	192.40	192.30	0.02
55. Swiss Fund	195.80	195.70	0.02
56. United States Fund	199.20	199.10	0.01
57. World Fund	202.60	202.50	0.01
58. Asian Fund	206.00	205.90	0.01
59. European Fund	209.40	209.30	0.01
60. Japanese Fund	212.80	212.70	0.01
61. Latin American Fund	216.20	216.10	0.01
62. Middle East Fund	219.60	219.50	0.01
63. North American Fund	223.00	222.90	0.01
64. Pacific Fund	226.40	226.30	0.01
65. South American Fund	229.80	229.70	0.01
66. Swiss Fund	233.20	233.10	0.01
67. United States Fund	236.60	236.50	0.01
68. World Fund	240.00	239.90	0.01
69. Asian Fund	243.40	243.30	0.01
70. European Fund	246.80	246.70	0.01
71. Japanese Fund	250.20	250.10	0.01
72. Latin American Fund	253.60	253.50	0.01
73. Middle East Fund	257.00	256.90	0.01
74. North American Fund	260.40	260.30	0.01
75. Pacific Fund	263.80	263.70	0.01
76. South American Fund	267.20	267.10	0.01
77. Swiss Fund	270.60	270.50	0.01
78. United States Fund	274.00	273.90	0.01
79. World Fund	277.40	277.30	0.01
80. Asian Fund	280.80	280.70	0.01
81. European Fund	284.20	284.10	0.01
82. Japanese Fund	287.60	287.50	0.01
83. Latin American Fund	291.00	290.90	0.01
84. Middle East Fund	294.40	294.30	0.01
85. North American Fund	297.80	297.70	0.01
86. Pacific Fund	301.20	301.10	0.01
87. South American Fund	304.60	304.50	0.01
88. Swiss Fund	308.00	307.90	0.01
89. United States Fund	311.40	311.30	0.01
90. World Fund	314.80	314.70	0.01
91. Asian Fund	318.20	318.10	0.01
92. European Fund	321.60	321.50	0.01
93. Japanese Fund	325.00	324.90	0.01
94. Latin American Fund	328.40	328.30	0.01
95. Middle East Fund	331.80	331.70	0.01
96. North American Fund	335.20	335.10	0.01
97. Pacific Fund	338.60	338.50	0.01
98. South American Fund	342.00	341.90	0.01
99. Swiss Fund	345.40	345.30	0.01
100. United States Fund	348.80	348.70	0.01

RACING: NEWMARKET SALES OFF TO A FLYING START

Strong claims for Prickle in Cheveley Park

By Michael Seely

Prickle can further establish her claim to be considered the best two-year-old filly trained in these islands by winning the Cheveley Park Stakes at Newmarket this afternoon. With the overnight withdrawal of Chapel Cottage, the Irish-trained challenger, Gala Event appears likely to be Prickle's main opponent.

The winner of her only two races, Prickle excelled herself in her victory in the Lower Stakes at York. Lester Piggott made every day of the running on Peter Player's Sharpen 175 filly, who quickened clear of Desirable and Chapel Cottage two furlongs from home.

Gala Event has won four of her five starts in Ireland for Ted Curtin. In her latest victory, she beat Desirable by three-quarters of a length in the group one Mayfield Stakes at the Curragh. However, as her victim had finished two and a half lengths behind Prickle at York, the advantage appears to rest with Henry Cecil's filly.

Prickle also won the Juncopeli, a £675,000 purchase as a yearling. Sheikh Maktoum al Maktoum's Blushing Groom filly is unbeaten in her only two races and was impressive last time out when winning by two lengths at Epsom. Island Smile, the solitary

New marketing concept

An original marketing scheme for racehorses has recently been developed in the United States. The scheme has been devised by Goffs Bloodstock Sales, Fasig-Tipton Company and Fair Hill, the training centre. The company's aim is to put young horses on the market while it is in training at Goffs Bloodstock Sales.

Horses consigned to Goffs Bloodstock Sales will be offered at auction and full training facilities at Fair Hill for a 30 to 60 day training period. This idea of marketing could be extremely beneficial for English owners, who



Boutin: French raider

Robert Sangster owned Caerleon may take part in the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe on Sunday. Vincent O'Brien, his trainer, said at Newmarket yesterday that the decision depends very much on whether the ground remains firm at Longchamps. Kinghorns, the bookmakers, have introduced Caerleon into their betting at 8-1 with a run.

Laing finds key to Kuwait Team

Kuwait Team, a \$300,000 yearling two years ago, finally won a race and surprised all concerned at 33-1 in the Royal Sussex Stakes at Goodwood yesterday. A change of scenery has evidently worked wonders for Shaikh Fahad's colt who was switched six weeks ago from Guy Harwood to Ray Laing at Lambourn.

Laing said: "They told me he just tried to go at Fullerton, but we're doing something else and he's done something wrong. This is his third race for me and he probably needed the first two. He had the right man on his back in Jim Wilson who rides with a light touch. I told him to keep the horse handy and still still because he won't go for the stick, but I couldn't believe my eyes when I saw him come there to win."

Kuwait, hooded and blinkered, did look in two minds about the job as he got the better of Royal Brigadier entering the final furlong, but Jim Wilson kept him running to the wire by half a length.

The stewards wanted to see Clive Britton after his Reklad had squeezed through to lead a farling out in the "Cost to Coast" Stable Award Handicap, but that was not to be. Woodcock and Bertha in a three-way photo finish. They wanted to ask about Reklad's improvement compared with his sixth to Concorde last time out, but that was not to be. Three weeks ago, but neither his trainer nor owner Captain Lemons was the meeting so the inquiry will be held at Newmarket tomorrow.

At first Major Hearn, discreet as ever, refused to reveal the identity of his client. "You can't tell me I am acting on behalf of a foreign buyer," Dick Warden, who was standing next to Major Hearn, later revealed that the purchase was Hamilton.

Records tumble in yearling sales

By Michael Seely

The Derby winner Troy, who died earlier this year, was the first star of the record breaking show at the Newmarket sales yesterday. Dick Hearn, the man who trained the 1979 Derby winner, paid 1,120,000 guineas for a yearling colt out of Princess Mathilda. This figure not only constituted a record for a yearling colt but also for any thoroughbred previously sold at public auction in Europe.

Only 13 lots later the record was broken for the second time when a yearling colt, sold to the British Bloodstock Agency (Ireland), who were acting on behalf of Robert Sangster and Vincent O'Brien, when paying 1,400,000 guineas for Prince Khalid Abdulla. This figure was paid for a key colt by General Assembly out of Sarah Siddons.

The previous best figure for a yearling was the 640,000 guineas paid out in 1981 for a colt by Mr. Reef, and for a horse of any age being 1,020,000 paid for Tenebris last December.

There was enormous excitement before the Irish auctioneer David Pinner's hammer fell to Major Hearn's final bid which capped that of Sir Philip Varys-Galloway, who had Stavros Niarchos and Henry Cecil standing at his side. With his hammer, Pinner said: "The day constituted a record for a day's yearling trade in Europe."

Sir William Duncan, the deputy chairman of the Horserace Betting Levy Board, and Mr. Charles Weatherly, the deputy secretary to the Jockey Club, have been nominated to the board of Rasmussen Technical Services. The Dublin trainer Bill Durkan has booked Michael Duffy to ride Clouds Daughter in Saturday's Sun Chariot Stakes at Newmarket.

made on behalf of the Maktoum family of Dubai.

It was, of course, Colonel Warden who back in July broke the world record for a thoroughbred when securing £10.3m for a Northern Dancer colt at the Keeneland July Sale.

The Troy colt was submitted by the Barretstown Stud Farms Limited and was the first foal of his dam, who is a winning half sister to the 1975 St Leger winner, Bruni.

Mr. Delahouckie is purchase was 3 colt by General Assembly, out of Sarah Siddons, who won the Irish 1000 Guineas and whose second foal was Seymour Hicks who is one of John Dunlop's strongly stationed sires of candidates for next Sunday's Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe.

Earlier, Dunlop had set a British record price for a yearling filly sold at auction when paying 500,000 guineas for a half sister by Troy to Wadd. This filly was purchased on behalf of this year's Irish 2000 Guineas winner's owner, Sheikh Ahmed bin Maktoum.

The opening day of the four day higher sale was the first ever session. It was staged by Tattersalls and the auctioneer's innovation was amply justified when the turnover for the day constituted a record for a day's yearling trade in Europe.

Sir William Duncan, the deputy chairman of the Horserace Betting Levy Board, and Mr. Charles Weatherly, the deputy secretary to the Jockey Club, have been nominated to the board of Rasmussen Technical Services. The Dublin trainer Bill Durkan has booked Michael Duffy to ride Clouds Daughter in Saturday's Sun Chariot Stakes at Newmarket.

Ludlow

2.0 STRETTON JOCKEYS' HURDLE (255s: 2m) (11 runners)
1 p.p. Lymond Lady (9) 8-10-1
2 0-13 Sempers Nags (9) 8-11-7
3 0-13 Sempers Nags (9) 8-11-7
4 100 Sempers Nags (9) 8-11-7
5 100 Sempers Nags (9) 8-11-7
6 100 Sempers Nags (9) 8-11-7
7 100 Sempers Nags (9) 8-11-7
8 100 Sempers Nags (9) 8-11-7
9 100 Sempers Nags (9) 8-11-7
10 100 Sempers Nags (9) 8-11-7
11 100 Sempers Nags (9) 8-11-7

Brighton

Draw advantage: low numbers best
1.45 RACE HILL STAKES (2-y-o: £1,815: 6f 66yds) (18 runners)
1 214 ANTON PILLAR H 9-11-10
2 2022 DEIRY RIVER (9) 9-11-10
3 2022 DEIRY RIVER (9) 9-11-10
4 2022 DEIRY RIVER (9) 9-11-10
5 2022 DEIRY RIVER (9) 9-11-10
6 2022 DEIRY RIVER (9) 9-11-10
7 2022 DEIRY RIVER (9) 9-11-10
8 2022 DEIRY RIVER (9) 9-11-10
9 2022 DEIRY RIVER (9) 9-11-10
10 2022 DEIRY RIVER (9) 9-11-10
11 2022 DEIRY RIVER (9) 9-11-10
12 2022 DEIRY RIVER (9) 9-11-10
13 2022 DEIRY RIVER (9) 9-11-10
14 2022 DEIRY RIVER (9) 9-11-10
15 2022 DEIRY RIVER (9) 9-11-10
16 2022 DEIRY RIVER (9) 9-11-10
17 2022 DEIRY RIVER (9) 9-11-10
18 2022 DEIRY RIVER (9) 9-11-10

Beverley

Draw advantage: high numbers best
2.0 AVALON HANDICAP (selling: £814: 1m 4f) (7 runners)
1 0000 ALLEY BANK (9) 9-11-10
2 0000 ALLEY BANK (9) 9-11-10
3 0000 ALLEY BANK (9) 9-11-10
4 0000 ALLEY BANK (9) 9-11-10
5 0000 ALLEY BANK (9) 9-11-10
6 0000 ALLEY BANK (9) 9-11-10
7 0000 ALLEY BANK (9) 9-11-10

Nottingham

Going: Good to firm
2.0 SITHORP STAKES (2-y-o: £4,511: 2m) (13 runners)
1 0000 ALLEY BANK (9) 9-11-10
2 0000 ALLEY BANK (9) 9-11-10
3 0000 ALLEY BANK (9) 9-11-10
4 0000 ALLEY BANK (9) 9-11-10
5 0000 ALLEY BANK (9) 9-11-10
6 0000 ALLEY BANK (9) 9-11-10
7 0000 ALLEY BANK (9) 9-11-10
8 0000 ALLEY BANK (9) 9-11-10
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La crème de la crème

also on page 28

Secretary

...with a good knowledge of French

Brussels

cBF720,000

We currently have a vacancy for an experienced Executive Secretary to join our associated company, Conoco Chemicals Europe, based in Brussels, Belgium.

Reporting directly to the Director Services and Administration and working additionally for his senior associates, who comprise a dynamic petrochemical marketing and sales organisation, the post demands the highest secretarial and personal attributes. The incumbent is also responsible for typing confidential documents for the Personnel Department.

Candidates will require a minimum of 'A' level education and could possibly be degree holders, with previous experience of working for a multi-national company. Ideally aged 25-30 with a second language capability (conversational French or other European language), this will be complemented by a sound command of both written and spoken English, plus a mature and professional disposition.

Duties primarily include the overall organisation of office routines, correspondence, executive travel arrangements and client/sales meetings involving some social entertainment.

Salary is around BF720,000 (approx. £9,000 sterling equivalent) plus terms and conditions of employment usually associated with a major international organisation.

Assistance will be available with relocation to Belgium.

If you feel capable of measuring up to the challenge of working in Europe, then please telephone for an application form:

Mrs. V. Slacks, Continental Oil Co. Ltd.,
105 Wigmore Street, London W1. Telephone
(01) 409 3156 (24 hour answering service).

CONTINENTAL OIL COMPANY LIMITED

Second Secretary General Manager's Office

£7,000

Reuters, the world's leading supplier of news and business information services, has a vacancy for an experienced secretary to assist in the General Manager's office.

Duties will include shorthand and typing - you must have accurate speeds of at least 90/60 wpm - organising meetings, travel arrangements; keeping diaries; filing and photocopying; sending telexes and occasional audio typing. Training on a word processor will be given.

You must have a good all-round knowledge of office routines, administrative skills and a calm, confident manner, even under pressure. Tact and discretion are also important qualities in this post. You will assist the General Manager's Personal Assistant in her work and deputise for her in her absence.

Benefits include five weeks and two days annual holiday, subsidised restaurant and an interest-free season ticket loan.

If you are looking for the opportunity to join an expanding, successful Company, in a post which will offer valuable experience working at senior management level, please call the Recruitment Executive on 01 250 1122, extension 7095, during office hours, or write to:

Recruitment Executive,
REUTERS LTD.,
85 Fleet Street, London EC4P 4AS.

SECRETARY

As Secretary to our Chief Executive's PA you will enjoy responsibility and use discretion. You will be a mature shorthand typist able to work on occasions from audio and your secretarial skills will be appreciated.

You will work in our most pleasant Cavendish Square, W1 offices and your excellent conditions of employment will include generous annual leave, staff restaurant, season ticket loan scheme, optional pension scheme and the commencing salary of up to £7,000 p.a. The job is no sinecure, but if you are the right person then we could talk to mutual advantage. I am the Personnel Officer and would be pleased to tell you more, ring me on 409 3333 Ext. 346.

SECRETARY/PA TO CHAIRMAN

We are a major independent Public Relations Consultancy, expanding rapidly and with an excellent reputation. We require a Secretary/PA with excellent shorthand and typing good organisational ability, confidence & initiative to work for the Chairman. This is a demanding job with no frills, but will satisfy someone looking for hard varied work in a fast moving environment.

Salary from £8,000 according to experience and ability + profit sharing scheme.

Please phone Janet Diver on 01-353 8448

For a copy of the job specification or send a hand written application & CV to:-
Terry Peck, Chairman,
Imperial Ltd.,
58 Fleet St, London EC4P 1JU
Mark envelope, 'Confidential' - P!

SECRETARY/PA to Financial Controller

We are COJANA leading Ladies Outerwear Manufacturers and distributors worldwide. Our major markets are in the U.K. and Western Europe. We require a person with good secretarial skills, able to correspond in German, who is thoroughly conversant with standard commercial practices, and medicines. The work will include most aspects of an existing fast moving consumer products business.

Salary: Negotiable
Apply with C.V. to:
Mr. D. J. Parrett
Financial Controller, Cojana
18 Great Marlborough St.
London W1V 2DX

Shorthand/Audio Secretary

With or without legal experience
Required by large City law firm to work for a partner in their Company/Commercial Department. Applicants should be educated to 'O' level standard. Have good secretarial skills and be willing to train on an L.B.M. Word Processing System. Excellent salary and benefits for right person.

For further details please telephone personnel on
01-600 0852
No Agencies Please

ADVERTISING

£7,000+

Director of Outdoor Advertising Company, SW1. The job requires a Secretary/PA with the ability to work effectively and accurately without supervision. This is a challenging position in a dynamic environment. Please send your CV to: Advertising Ltd.

SAVILLS

DYNAMIC NEGOTIATOR

required for London Residential Department. Please write sending CV to Miss C. Davis, Staff Secretary, 20 Grosvenor Hill, Berkeley Square, London, W1X 0HQ.

01-493 8351
(no agencies)

PA to Managing Director

Mayfair c£9,500

The American Managing Director of an international chain of beauty salons needs a bright PA with senior level secretarial experience and the capacity to work under pressure. A very interesting job for someone aged 28+ with 100/60 speeds. Free hair dressing. Ring 01 493 5907 and 01 499 0062.

WELCOME OR WELCOME BACK?

As a long established recruitment consultancy, we've made a lot of friends over the years. Both our clients and our candidates tend to come back to us, because they can trust our warm yet totally professional service. If you're considering a career move, take a look at some of our current opportunities.

DESIGNED-LINKED

to £10,000

Vibrant personality, impeccable presentation & the ability to work under real pressure? With PA/Secretarial skills & 10 years experience, to match? Great! In fact, social qualities sought by a charming Partner seeking dedicated, full support in a superb environment.

MANAGEMENT to £8,500+

With initiative & true Admin flair, you can exploit your talents to the full assisting the Office Manager of a prestigious Professional Partnership. A Business Studies formation should accompany good typing & general office Admin skills and an equally smart image.

EXECUTIVE to c. £7,300

An unusually interesting brief within an 'ACADEMIC' environment, for the well-motivated & energetic individual at all levels. As an Executive Officer of the establishment, all aspects of Admin also require your deft handling in this diverse and responsible role.

NOT J.R.B. ... c. £7,000

Excellent opening for the young, well presented & poised individual to act as Secretary to two really nice executives, within a major international company with a number of interests but, primarily, Oil. Ideal for, perhaps, a 2nd degree ready to move on and - in this case - into really beautiful Mayfair surroundings.

PRESTIGIOUS TEMPORARY ASSIGNMENTS ...

at premium rates for skilled SECRETARIAL & WORD PROCESSING Personnel are available throughout the year with our major Clients, in all fields of interest from Marketing to Medical, Political to PR, et al. ... do contact us now!

If you are interested in any of the above positions, please contact any of our branches throughout Central London or call in or phone one of the branches below:

19-23 Oxford St, W1 Tel: 01-437 9030
30 Bush Lane, EC4 Tel: 01-626 6315

Recruitment Consultants

Challoners

To £8,000 pa

We are an international firm of Chartered Accountants near St. Pauls. With 300 offices across 5 continents and 68 countries, international staff transfers (up to 150 a year) are a major part of our business.

As Assistant to the International Personnel Manager, you will need initiative and a flair for administration. You will be used to taking responsibility, working under pressure and you must enjoy dealing with people and their many queries.

You should have good shorthand and typing speeds and around 4 years' working experience.

For an application form and/or further details contact personnel on 01-236 2104 quoting ref AP2.

NO AGENCIES

ADMINISTRATIVE P.A.

CHELSEA £8000+

A small highly professional management consultancy is seeking to fill this key position. Aged 25+ you will have demonstrated high level secretarial success combined with the ability to carry responsibility and take initiative. First class technical skills are essential. W.P. and book-keeping experience are desirable. 4 weeks' holiday + B.U.P.A. + Pension.

Please reply with C.V. to:
FREDERICK THOMSON at CERT LTD
The Courthouse, 9 Justice Walk
London, SW3 5DE

PART-TIME

WEST END £9,500

An advice to one of Britain's leading business firms needs a P/T Secretary to work from 10am to 1pm. This is an interesting combination of business and social activities which would suit a well-educated Secretary with a flexible attitude to work and who enjoys working in a beautiful and non-stressful surroundings.

COBOLD AND DAVIS Recruitment Place,
35 Bruton Place,
London, W1.
01-493 7789

SEE A SPECIALIST IN THE ADVERTISING INDUSTRY

AD AGENCY - COVENT GARDEN - Requires 3 Sh/Sec in Asst Management, adv exp preferable - £7,250

WEST END PR CO. - Audio Sec - early 20s to work for busy Director, lots of involvement - £8,500-£7,000

ADVERTISING W1 - Receptionist - previous experience necessary - switchboard - lots of involvement - £8,000

TECHNICAL W1 - we have a number of long and short term assignments in the Communications Industry.

PLEASE CALL Caroline Price or Jane Capson on 493 6456

8 Blenheim Street London W1

PA/SECRETARY WITH ENOUGH BRAINS & EDUCATION TO BECOME AN EX-PA/SECRETARY

To quickly come to the aid of a physiological researcher. By now you should know what's necessary.

Salary is £300 for every year of your mental age (we can't afford old-at-hearts). Oh yes, the job... a fair bit of typing on an IBM RS electronic (audio preferred to shorthand), keeping insurance salesmen and secretarial agencies all my back and when you're done all that sort of thing, becoming involved in what psychological research is all about, which could be an advantage to both of us.

My present secretary says a lack of sensitivity would be an asset (but what does she know?).

Telephone Marlene Daniels, 527 0173 (just because we're in Kensington that doesn't mean you have to be a Sloane Ranger).

ROYAL NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR THE BLIND

ASSISTANT
COMMITTEE SECRETARY

Class £7,400 p.a.

We require a mature person aged between 30 and 45 years to undertake a variety of administrative duties including the preparation of reports, attendance at meetings and writing of letters. Candidates should have a minimum of 10 years' experience of secretarial work.

28 hours per week. A flexible working hours system is in operation. Subsidised lunch facilities. Pension scheme with transferability.

Applications should be sent to the Personnel Office, 100 224 Great Portland Street, London W1N 6AA.

ROOM AT THE TOP

£8,500

Acoustic recording overlooking the City and the River Thames. You will be working as a PA/Sec to a distinguished and dynamic Director. Young, relaxed atmosphere, generous pressure and commitment, where you will enjoy an interesting and learning role. You will need a published experience, good education, skills of 100/60 and will have to be keen to use your talents.

For further details please
629 7262

Secretarial Appointments
A Division of Graduate Appointments

GORDON YATES

VENTURE CAPITAL

Director's Secretary £7500 + bonus
"MONEY makes the world go round". A professional consultancy is looking for a confident secretary to join them in 7th, Bond Street office - an elegant environment from which they find the time to make things happen. From the development of secretarial instruments to - it could be anything! Working specifically for two directors, you will find the atmosphere relaxed, informal and full of activity. Your good skills (100/60+), experience, sound education and common sense will make this a rather special job. B.U.P.A. pension scheme, and W/P training are included. Please telephone today for further details.

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<p>Michael Tyrone? The list of suspects seems endless.</p> <p>2.10 Weather.</p>	<p>12.16 Night Thoughts from Ft. Michael Hollings on Michaelmas</p>
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Kinnock backs a national minimum wage

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

Higher social security benefits, a national minimum wage, and a fairer tax system would all be necessary if poverty were to be tackled decisively, Mr Neil Kinnock, the foremost candidate for the Labour Party leadership, said in Birmingham yesterday.

He told a conference on low pay that 7.5 million people in Britain were in poverty, as measured by popular standards of decency, in that they lacked "the basic necessities the rest of us take for granted."

Mr Kinnock said that low wages were a significant direct and indirect cause of poverty. The Government and the Social Democrats believed that it should be dealt with through providing social security to the low-paid, but that only deepened the poverty trap while providing huge subsidies to low-wage firms.

That was why the Labour Party and the Trades Union Congress had held detailed discussions on how to introduce a national minimum wage, for which there was considerable public support.

"Of course, we need to be careful in the way that such a minimum wage is introduced," Mr Kinnock said. "Immediate withdrawal of the low-wage subsidy, on which many firms have relied, could cause serious difficulty, but a phased introduction would give them time to adapt."

Seven million people and their families stood to gain directly, while the rest would benefit from the stimulus to economic activity and the creation of jobs.

Saying that the country needed a fairer and more progressive tax system, Mr Kinnock added that capital transfer tax and capital gains tax had been virtually abolished by the present Government, with income tax payers

especially the low-paid, left to pick up the bill.

A more effective system of capital taxation, including an annual wealth tax, was essential to ensure that the wealthy made their proper contribution to revenue and to reduce the present gross inequalities in wealth.

Mr Kinnock said his case was based not on the politics of envy but on the economics of efficiency. The absence of effective wealth taxation encouraged the inefficient use of resources in the production of prestige goods and services, often tax-deductible, for the very rich.

Income tax, with its elaborate array of reliefs providing greatest benefits to the top-off, also needed reforming, he said.

Mr Roy Hattersley, favourite for the deputy leadership of the party, also spoke last night in Birmingham and attacked Dr David Owen's speech to the Social Democrats' council in Salford two weeks ago.

Dr Owen did not understand the implication of his "half thought out" economic policy, Mr Hattersley said. His offer of "toughness and tenderness" would mean tenderness to the middle-income groups and toughness towards the lowest paid.

Mr Owen did not understand the implication of his "half thought out" economic policy, Mr Hattersley said. His offer of "toughness and tenderness" would mean tenderness to the middle-income groups and toughness towards the lowest paid.

Union hope for Meacher

Mr Michael Meacher's campaign to win the Labour deputy leadership spluttered back into life last night as his supporters circulated reports that he had won the support of the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs, which has a block vote of 147,000 (Paul Routledge writes).

Gibraltar ship concern

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

Ageing and dangerous ships are being transferred in increasing numbers to the newly emerging flag of convenience of Gibraltar, according to the National Union of Seamen (NUS).

The union's leaders decided last week to ignore attempts by Gibraltar's ship owners to negotiate an exclusive recognition deal with the NUS, and will decide how to fight the flag at the International Transport Workers' Federation congress in Madrid in October.

The union is concerned that when British ships transfer to the Gibraltar flag the jobs on board

are taken by foreign citizens, who are paid well below union rates and work in poor conditions.

The Gibraltar flag - an emerging rival to the Panamanian and Liberian flag - has come into prominence over the past two years and now 40 vessels are registered there, many of them formerly lined in Britain. Others are from Scandinavia.

Mr Jim Slater, general secretary of the union, said that many of the vessels were "rust buckets" and unable to continue to reach the standards demanded by the British registry and by other flags.



Winners and losers: A rueful Mr Dennis Conner, the American helmsman (left); all-night revellers shouting for joy at the Royal Perth Yacht Club; and Australia II's skipper, Mr John Bertrand, with his wife, Roz.

Reagan sends his congratulations

By Rupert Morris

An Australian victory celebrations continued yesterday in Newport, Perth, and Earl Court. President Reagan sent a message of congratulations to Mr Bob Hawke, the Australian Prime Minister, and Peter de Savary, the British millionaire, who was seen to have another crack at the America's Cup.

Mr Reagan's message said: "If the American's Cup had to leave the United States, I am delighted that it has come to Australia - at least until the next race. All Australians must be justifiably proud of the extraordinary team effort, skill, and sportsmanship that brought off this magnificent victory."

Although sportsmanship sometimes seemed secondary during this ceaselessly controversial competition, the race in which the United States surrendered its 132-year-old grip on the Cup caught the public imagination all over the world in an unprecedented way.

With news from Newport that the Australian are likely to defend their trophy in Perth in 1988, the talk in British yachting circles will soon be about who will challenge for Britain. At the moment, everyone is waiting for the Royal Perth Club to declare its intentions.

Mr John Darie, Secretary-

General of the Royal Yachting Association, said yesterday: "If the Australians do have a challenge, then it is likely that someone in Britain will have a go."

Under the present America's Cup rules, which the Royal Perth Yacht Club may choose to vary, it is up to individual yacht clubs to select their challenger.

If there is more than one British entrant, they will be expected to fight it out in eliminating heats in Perth.

Mr de Savary, whose syndicate spent \$5m entering the yacht Victoria by the Royal Perth Yacht Club, said yesterday on BBC Radio 2: "We feel it is a great event and we think we ought to have another go."

He did not, however, give any indication that he was willing to put up the money himself, and there are doubts as to whether he would be able to raise the necessary sponsorship.

The unprecedented media interest and television coverage might appear to offer huge sponsorship opportunities, but the ability of Perth, with its relatively small population, to mount a merchandising operation on the scale usually seen in the United States is questionable.

Yacht racing rules prohibit advertising on boats, or on competitors' clothing.

An extraordinary and highly emotional wave of patriotism swept Australia yesterday from the moment Australia II crossed the line in victory.

The feeling had been building up for weeks, but until the moment of victory no one had dared to believe in it. Before the first race, most Australians were showing only a mild interest in the event, having been dragged through many humiliating defeats in the past two decades.

But by the end of the sixth race, the entire country seemed to have rediscovered a fervent nationalism not felt since the glittering 1950s when Australian athletes, such as Herb Elliot and John Landy, swimmers such as John Konrads, and Dawn Fraser, and tennis players such as Frank Sedgman and Rod Laver, all conquered the world.

At 5.21 am yesterday, the huge all-night parties at the Royal Perth Yacht Club exploded into hysteria when Australia II took the honours. Mr Bob Hawke, the Prime Minister, had tears streaming down his face and champagne spraying all about him as he offered accolades to every one who had anything to do with the victory.

"Any boat who makes anyone today for not turning up to work is a bum", Mr Hawke said. "I

Wave of euphoria sweeps Australia

From Douglas Aiton, Melbourne

don't think I have had a greater moment of pride."

The Royal Perth Yacht Club is the home base for the Australia II challenge. The scene there was one of delirium.

The club manager, Mr Brian Gann, ran through the club at the moment of victory carrying a poster showing a kangaroo leaping over a flag. Moments before, as Australia II was making its comeback in the final stages, impeccably dressed women knelt on the floor and prayed.

Over on the east coast it was after 8 am. There were scenes of ecstasy in Sydney, and Melbourne, too, although of a different kind. People going to work in suburban trains and trams had radios blaring loudly as the race drew to its conclusion.

When the Australians won the public transport systems went wild, and that was only the beginning.

Later in the day, the afternoon newspapers and television seemed to lose control. Special colour editions of newspapers brayed about the triumph over several pages. The headlines were reminiscent of the dazzling time, 27 years ago, when Australia's athletes won gold after gold at the Melbourne Olympics.

Reagan attacks Congress in call for IMF funding

Continued from page 1

The Chancellor planned to relay these concerns to Mr Reagan before today's visit by Mrs Margaret Thatcher.

The British Government has been fighting the tax for five years and has urged the administration to submit legislation to Congress to resolve whether states have the right to impose the tax. But the President does not want to raise the touchy issue of state rights before the elections.

In his address to the IMF and bank delegates, Mr Reagan was strongly supportive of the international institutions.

● The \$11 billion rescue package for Brazil took an important step forward - the country's foreign creditors - both banks and western governments - agreed in principle on how to raise the new money required.

Commercial banks, which originally said that they would be hard-pressed to raise \$6bn of new loans, have agreed to try to raise \$6.5bn. All of Brazil's 700 to 800 creditor banks will be expected to stump up new money in proportion to existing exposures.

Western governments will, in effect, provide the rest by rescheduling \$2bn of official loans. They are also expected to provide a further \$2.5bn, possibly through guarantees for new bank finance.

Letters, page 13
Classes speech, page 19

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements
Princess Anne, Colonel in Chief, The Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters Regiment, visits the 3rd Battalion in camp at Shenynbridge, Powys, 11.

Princess Alice, patron Fraternity of Friends of St Albans Abbey, attends Flower Festival preview in aid of restoration appeal, St Albans Abbey, 6.30.

New exhibitions
Paintings by Charlotte Ardzsonne.

Gallery 10, 10 Grosvenor Street, W1: Mon to Fri 10 to 5.30, Sat 10 to 1 (from today until October 14).

David Bailey: Black and White Memories, Victoria and Albert Museum, Photo Gallery, Henry Cole Wing, Cromwell Road, SW7: Mon to Sat 10 to 5.30, closed Fri, Sat 2.30 to 5.30 (from today Nov 27).

Exhibitions in progress
An exhibition of paintings by Jim Anderson, The Ginnel Gallery, Lloyd House Lloyd Street, Manchester: Mon to Fri 9-5, Thur 9-6, closed Sat and Sun (until Oct 7).

Grace and Labour: watercolours, prints and drawings with porcelain, sculpture and objects d'art: Cecil Higgins Art Gallery, Castle Green, Bedford: Tues to Fri 12.30 to 5, Sat 11 to 5, Sun 2 to 5, closed Mon.

Meredith Artists Exhibition: Atkinson Art Gallery, Lord Street, Southport: Mon to Wed, Fri 10 to 5, Thurs and Sat 10 to 1, closed Sun (until Oct 15).

Last chance to see
Contemporary Glass: an exhibition of new glass organized by Paul Hughes, City Museum and Art Gallery, Priorygate, Peterborough: ends today.

The Floating World: Japanese prints, Glasgow Museums and Art Galleries, Kelvingrove, Glasgow: 10 to 5, ends today.

An exhibition of paintings by Mark Le Claire, City Museum and Art Gallery, Priorygate, Peterborough: 10 to 5, ends today.

Talks, lectures
Construction and planting of peat bank: Royal Horticultural Society, Garden, Wisley, Ripley, Surrey: 2 to 4 (and tomorrow).

Birds of prey and falconry, by Dr Nick Fox, Carmarthen Museum, Aberystwyth, Carmarthen: 2.

Books - hardback

The Library Editor's selection of interesting books published this week.

Children of the Gods, the complete myths and legends of ancient Greece, by Kenneth McLean (Longman, £5.95).

Diogenes, the Cynic, a Dramatic Fragment, by Samuel Beckett (John Calder, £5.95).

Dylan, the Progress of a Revolutionary, by Stephen Glass (Temple Smith, £15).

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The papers

The Washington Post in an editorial yesterday called Australia's victory in the America's Cup race said that the Australians clearly had a faster boat, and they handled her brilliantly. The Americans were widely acknowledged to be fair, honest, and they were a lot of fun to watch. "But 25 years in a row is not good for anybody's national character."

It added: "The Americans will probably be back at the cup race time. And when they do, their boat will probably have a keel that looks very much like the one of Australia II."

The Daily Mirror, commenting on the same subject today, calls the contest on television "the most baffling competition ever staged in the history of sport." It says: "The only thing that everyone DID understand was that the Americans were more dirty tricks than ever appeared in any episode of Dallas to help them keep the cup."

Millions of people who watched the contest on television had not the faintest notion of what it was all about, the newspaper comments.

Roads

London and the South-east: A307: Hill Street, Richmond, closed; diversion; delays during peak times.

A22: Temporary traffic lights at Uckfield. M1: Roadworks at Toddington, Junction 12; all traffic sharing the northbound carriageway.

The A39: Walsbridge - Farnham, closed; diversion; delays during peak times.

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Weather forecast

All but the far N will start dull and misty, but sunny intervals are expected to develop away from windward coasts.

6 am to midnight

London, E Angles, Midlands, E and Central N England, Channel Islands: Sunny intervals developing after a dull and misty start; winds light; max temp 18 to 21°C (64 to 70°F).

SE, Central S, SW, NW England, Wales: Fog patches and some drizzle over the Channel; max temp 14 to 16°C (57 to 61°F).

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SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea: Wind variable light; sea smooth or slight chop.

Straits of Dover, English Channel (E): Wind mainly S-E light; sea smooth.

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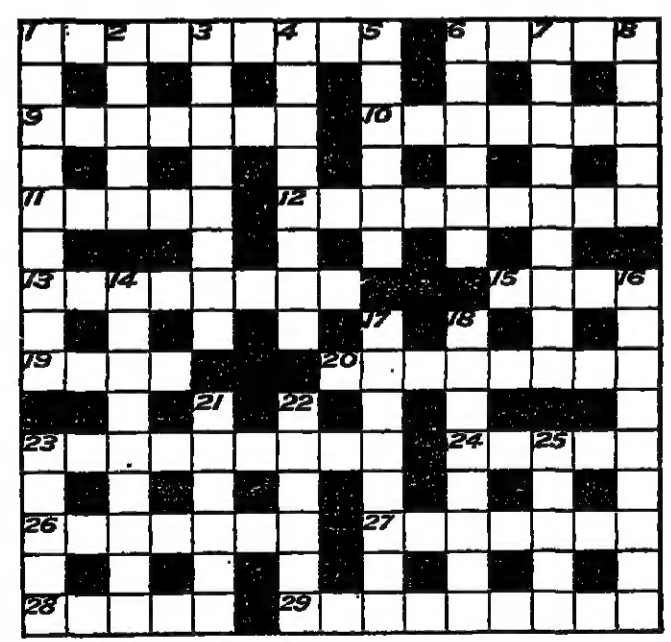
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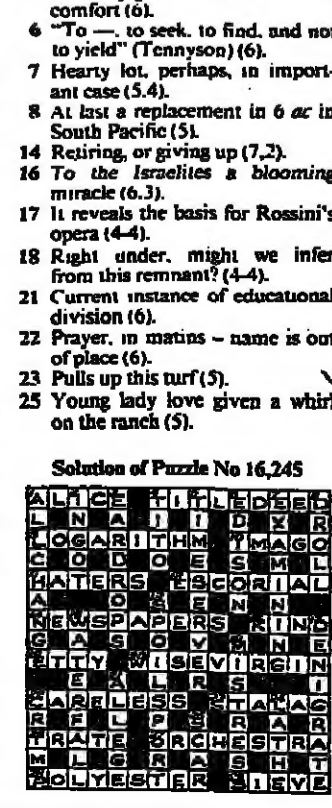
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The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,246



- ACROSS**
- Ribs gunners wed, perhaps (3,6).
 - Hence Pythagoras, second prop (5).
 - Wrongly bid a spade? Not if you speak plainly (7).
 - Title lucky character gives novel (4,3).
 - Clementine's footwear - standard for the well-dressed? (5).
 - Contravene the story of Mr Bultitude (4,5).
 - For example, 11 steering off course (8).
 - Easy thing to enter University, back in island (4).
 - Repair job in 29 (4).
 - He's always concerned with date-issues (8).
 - Tent-maker of Minnesota (5,4).
 - Legend, in two parts, of the Roc (weight about a pound) (15).
 - Grow a sort of nutmeg (7).
 - Notice face-saving device used by mentor (7).
 - Sudden impulse to show this material (5).
 - 29 Whiff's captain hardly ever used (5-4).
- DOWN**
- Maid known, perhaps, to be included in this (9).
 - Stuff to rub bows and even parts of arrows in (5).
 - Indication of what's ahead, by the way (4,4).

Solution of Puzzle No 16,245



Music

Guitar recital by Graham Wade, City Art Gallery, The Headrow, Leeds, 1.05.

Bath Abbey, Bath: 8.

Organ recital by Professor Gordon Phillips, St Francis Church, Wilton Way, Fets Wood, Kent, 8.

Organ recital by Ronald Perrin, Parish Church, Leeds, 6.45.

The Corries in concert, Eden Court Theatre, Inverness, 7.45.

Anniversaries

Births: Caravaggio, painter, Carravaggio, Italy, 1573; Richard Bright, physician, Bristol, 1789; Georges Clemenceau, Prime Minister of France 1917-20; Moncleron-en-France, 1917-20; John French, 1st Earl of Ypres, Commander-in-Chief British Forces in France 1914-15; Ripple, Kent, 1852; Deaths: Wenceslas, patron saint of Czechoslovakia, Stara Boleslav, 929; Herman Melville, novelist (Moby Dick), New York, 1891; Louis Pasteur, Saint-Claude, France, 1895; Emilie Zola, Paris, 1902.

The pound

	Bank	Bank
Australia \$	1.74	1.66
Austria Sch	79.25	77.50
Belgium Fr	83.75	79.75
Canada \$	1.91	1.84
Denmark Kr	14.86	14.16
Finland Mk	1.31	1.26
France Fr	124.5	119.0
Germany DM	4.12	3.92
Greece Dr	151.50	143.50
Hong Kong \$	12.85	12.25
India Rupee	1.31	1.26
Italy Lira	2480.00	2370.00
Japan Yen	374.00	356.00
Netherlands Gld	4.63	4.38
Norway Kr	11.52	10.95
Portugal Esc	192.00	184.00
Spain Ptas	230.25	222.25
Sweden Kr	12.20	11.65
Switzerland Fr	3.36	3.18
USA \$	1.54	1.49
Yugoslavia Dnr	189.00	177.00

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Rail

Southern Region has warned prospective travellers of long delays on the Brighton to London train service after railway guards at Brighton yesterday voted to continue their unofficial strike which started on Monday.

The strike, by more than 130 guards, is over the dismissal of one man for allegedly assaulting a passenger who would not remove his bicycle from the corridor of a Brighton to London train last month.

The local branch of the National Union of Railwaymen does not plan to meet again until Thursday, unless the dismissal notice is withdrawn.

Lighting-up time

TODAY
Brighton 7.17 pm to 8.27 am
Edinburgh 7.26 pm to 8.37 am
Manchester 7.34 pm to 8.44 am
Penzance 7.30 pm to 8.40 am

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: n, cloud; f, fog; g, gale; s, sun.

Belfast	10.6	Glasgow	10.5
Birmingham	10.5	Leeds	10.5
Bristol	10.5	Liverpool	10.5
Cardiff	10.5	Manchester	10.5
Edinburgh	10.5	Newcastle	10.5
Exeter	10.5	Nottingham	10.5
Gloucester	10.5	Sheffield	10.5
Harrogate	10.5	Southampton	10.5
Leamington	10.5	Stoke-on-Trent	10.5
Leeds	10.5	Swansea	10.5
Liverpool	10.5	Torquay	10.5
Manchester	10.5	Walsley	10.5
Newcastle	10.5	Wolverhampton	10.5
Nottingham	10.5	York	10.5

Highest and lowest

Yesterday's highest day temps: London 22°C (72°F); lowest day temp: Liverpool 11°C (52°F); highest night temp: Manchester 10.5°C (51°F).

London

Yesterday's temps: max 6 am to 8 pm, 22°C (72°F); min 8 pm to 6 am, 11°C (52°F); max 8 pm to 6 am, 11°C (52°F); min 6 am to 8